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July 3, 1918. Temperature 6 a.m. 80 2 p.m. 84
Humidity 89 79

July 3, 1917. Temperature 6 a.m. 81 2 p.m. 83
Humidity 82 62

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 1918.

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REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

OPERATIONS IN FRANCE.

Improvement of British Positions.

London, July 1.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We rushed a post in Aveluy Wood on Sunday and raided, during the night, trenches to the west of Darnecourt. East County troops, early in the night, were engaged in a successful minor operation north-west of Albert. They took 34 prisoners, some machine guns and improved the positions. A counter-attack was beaten off. Hostile artillery is active north of Albert, south-east of Arras, east of Rebecq, and in the neighbourhoods of Meris, and the Ypres-Comines Canal.

French Actions Yield 200 Prisoners.

London, July 1.
A French communiqué says:—We made several raids between Montdidier and Noyon and took a score of prisoners. We captured the enemy centre of resistance north of Cury, taking twenty-six prisoners. We improved our positions between Passy-en-Valois and Vinly and advanced our line to the east of the Chery-Vinly Railway. A German counter-attack on our new positions south-east of Mosloy caused a lively fight, the result of which was that we integrally maintained our yesterday's gains. We took about two hundred prisoners in these actions.

Increasing Aerial Activity.

London, July 1.
Reuter's correspondent at the British Headquarters, telegraphing on July 1, says:—During the past month the war has resolved itself into an affair of bombing. Every five night enemy planes are up, but their interference with our existence is only a fraction of what the enemy has to endure from ours. In Rhineland the sound of our engines never ceases in fine weather, and blazing buildings nightly illuminate the countryside. Last night's affair north of Albert was one of many recent acquisitions of ground which in the future we will turn to account. This is the second local advance in the same salient. We have now acquired a command of fire and observation of which we stand in need.

Sir Douglas Haig's Congratulations.

London, July 1.
The Press Bureau announces that Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig has congratulated Lieut. General Haking and all ranks under his command on the success of June 28, reflecting great credit on all concerned. He has also congratulated the Air Force for the brilliant and all-important assistance rendered to other arms throughout the recent operations.

THE CZECH-SLOVAKS.

Presentation of Regimental Colours.

London, July 1.
Reuter's correspondent at the French Headquarters, telegraphing on the afternoon of June 30, says:—President Poincaré to-day presented national standards to the Czech-Slovak regiments formed in France from volunteers belonging to Slav nationalities of Austria-Hungary, and regiments composed of kinsmen and co-nationals of Czech-Slovak soldiers captured by the Russians, mostly by voluntary surrender, early in the war, who are now fighting in Russia, and of the Czech-Slovak regiments of the Italian Army, who fought most gallantly on the Piave. Many have been Austrian soldiers and others are Slav emigrants from America. They know that they will receive no quarter if captured and the knowledge makes them more resolved to fight. The Czech-Slovaks wear the French uniform in France, with a distinctive national badge.

THE RUMANIAN PEACE.

Strange Speech by the Foreign Minister.

London, July 1.
Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam says that in the Bukharest Chamber, M. Arion, the Foreign Minister, declared that the hour of justice had struck. The country demanded from Parliament the fixing of responsibilities. Past mistakes must be atoned for and crimes punished. The Government must also carry out great financial reforms, as the war burdens exceeded \$520,000,000. He added that he was always opposed to the war and concluded peace to save what was saveable, thanks to the credit he enjoyed with those with whom they had negotiated.

THE ANGLO-JAPANESE ALLIANCE.

Prince Arthur of Connaught on Its Value.

London, July 1.
The Times' correspondent at Tokyo says that Prince Arthur of Connaught, interviewed on his impressions of his visit, said that the people of all classes realised the value of the Alliance and felt that it guaranteed peace in the Far East and that everything should be done to strengthen this relationship. He had taken every opportunity of expressing appreciation of the Japanese Navy's work in the Mediterranean, which had received scant attention in the newspapers, and also the services in the Indian and Pacific Oceans which had been kept open to the world's trade by Japanese vigilance. "We on our part are fully conscious that Japan has behaved loyally throughout the war and is ready, if necessary, to employ her military, as she now employs her naval forces." Referring to the large gathering of British Indians at the Embassy, Prince Arthur spoke of the loyalty of India and said that the Indian community in Japan would further show its loyalty shortly by presenting an address.

THE RUBBER OUTLOOK.

Advice to Holders of Shares.

London, July 2.
The Financial Times says it is practically certain that the American restriction on the import of rubber will be only temporary, unless the war takes a very unfavourable turn, and when the stocks in America are reduced to a low ebb, recovery will set in. Under the circumstances, any reduction of output will lessen the danger of a serious fall in price, and Companies which can profitably "rest" their trees ought to do so to the fullest extent possible. But there is no need for panic, and shareholders should not allow themselves to be scared out of their holdings. Whether any serious set-back is experienced will depend largely on the prudence of the managers of Companies.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

ANOTHER HOSPITAL SHIP TORPEDOED.

The "Llandovery Castle" Sinks in Ten Minutes.

London, July 1.
The Admiralty announces that the British hospital ship, the Llandovery Castle, was torpedoed at 10.30 the night of June 27, 116 miles south-west of Fastnet. The ship sank in ten minutes. It was homeward bound from Canada and there were, therefore, no sick and wounded on board. The crew consisted of 164 and the boat also carried eighty Canadian Army medical men and fourteen female nurses. Of the total of 258, one boatload of twenty-four has been landed. There is a bare possibility of others survivors. It must be noted that in this, as in all other instances, the German submarines had a perfect right to stop and search the hospital ship under the Hague Convention. It preferred, however, to torpedo the Llandovery Castle. The ship showed all navigating and the regulation hospital lights.

RUSSIAN AFFAIRS.

Naval Officer Shot.

London, July 1.
Reuter's correspondent at Moscow, writing on June 23, says that Captain St. Chesny, formerly commander of the Baltic Fleet, has been shot.

The Ex-Tsar.

London, July 1.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Moscow, the reports of the murder of the ex-Tsar have been completely discredited.

German Colonists Arming.

London, July 1.
Reuter's correspondent at Kieff, writing on June 25, says that by order of the German authorities, German colonists in Tauride Government are arming.

THE BLACK SEA FLEET.

London, July 1.
In the House of Commons, replying to Mr. King, Mr. Bonar Law confirmed the report that a large part of the Russian Black Sea Fleet had unfortunately fallen into the hands of the German Government. He had reason to believe that Russian sailors sank some warships in order to prevent the Germans gaining possession of them.

ON THE ITALIAN FRONT.

London, July 1.
A British Italian official message states:—The situation is quiet. We carried out two raids, taking a few prisoners and inflicting many casualties. We destroyed six aeroplanes and drove down one uncontrolled. One British machine has not returned.

MR. PEMBERTON BILLING.

Frog-Marched Out of House of Commons.

London, July 1.
In the House of Commons, during a debate on National Service, the Speaker ordered Mr. Pemberton Billing to leave the Chamber for disorderly conduct. Mr. Billing refused to do so. The Sergeant at Arms was called in and Mr. Billing still refused, whereupon the sitting was suspended and attendants frog-marched him out of the Chamber.

GERMAN COLONISATION OF COURLAND.

London, July 1.
In connection with Baron von Kuehlmann's declaration in his last speech in the Reichstag that Courland was already regarded as German territory, a telegram from Kovno significantly states that General von Hindenburg has issued an order relative to the land question, paving the way for the German colonisation of Courland.

AUSTRALIAN LABOURITES AGAINST PEACE.

London, July 1.
Reuter's correspondent at Perth, West Australia, says that an enthusiastic meeting of the National Labour Party in the Town Hall, which was crowded, condemned and repudiated peace proposals. Mr. Scadden, an ex-Labour Premier, declared that any man who suggested following Russia was a traitor.

A NEW PEER.

London, July 1.
Sir Arthur Lee, M.P., who in October last presented the estate, Chequers Court, as an official country residence for future Prime Ministers of England, has been raised to the Peerage.

EMPIRE SUGAR PRODUCTION.

London, July 1.
In the House of Commons, Mr. Page Croft asked:—Have the Government decided on a definite policy for sugar production within the Empire?

Mr. Bonar Law replied that the subject is being considered, and he is aware that the interest therein is Empire wide.

VLADIVOSTOCK SOVIET DISSOLVED.

London, July 1.
Reuter's correspondent at Shanghai says that the Soviets have dissolved the Vladivostock Soviet.

THE CHINESE OPIUM DEAL.

Is it a Retrograde Step?

London, July 2.
Reuter's correspondent at Peking states that there is much perturbation at Mr. Balfour's remarks, which were cabled on June 21. It is considered that instead of marking the end of the opium traffic, the deal referred to by Mr. Balfour re-opens the whole of China both for cultivation and smoking and destroys years of magnificent anti-opium work in which China has effected the greatest social reform in her history. The Government intends to establish a vast opium gabelle, but hesitates to announce the scheme.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE IMPERIAL WAR CONFERENCE.

The Command of Essential Raw Materials.

London, July 1.
The fourth, fifth and sixth meetings of the Imperial War Conference, held on June 24, 26 and 28, were almost exclusively devoted to the continuance of discussions on various phases of post-war economic policies. The Conference passed a resolution endorsing the principle of the United Kingdom Non-Ferrous Metals Act in pursuance of the policy of freeing the Empire from dependence on German-controlled organisations in respect to non-ferrous metals and ores, and recommended that the Governments of the Empire should make such arrangements among themselves as to ensure that essential raw materials produced within the Empire should be available for the purpose of securing to the Empire and belligerent Allies the command of certain essential raw materials to enable them to repair the effects of war as soon as possible and to safeguard their industrial requirements. The Governments of the Empire should also arrange with the Allies to utilise for the same purposes essential raw materials produced in Allied countries. The Conference passed a further resolution recommending that a Committee of the Conference should first consider possible methods whereby each part of the Empire could obtain command of the essential raw materials referred to in the previous resolution, and that the Governments represented at the Conference should, in the light of information collected by the Committee, consult representatives of producers and traders concerned regarding the method of obtaining command best suited to each commodity.

German Comment.

London, July 1.
The Times says that the meeting of the Imperial Conference has occasioned articles in the German Press, discussing the structure of the British Empire, by professors and other so-called experts. The writers are more modest than hitherto and apparently they are almost convinced that the war offers Germany no hope of seriously undermining British unity. Canada has almost dropped out of the discussion, but Conservative journals cling to the hope that trouble can still be made between Japan and Australia about the future of the Pacific. Vorwärts, in a long article entitled "Greater Britain," admits that the Empire has manifested powerful military and political cohesion, supplemented by a strong tendency towards economic unity, and says a Customs Union is also likely, in which Britain must assist the development of the Dominions. Germany's only remaining hope is a quarrel between the Dominions and Great Britain owing to the failure of the latter to prevent the restoration of the German Colonies.

A SENSATIONAL TRIAL.

London, July 1.
Sir Joseph Jones (formerly Lord Mayor of Sheffield) and Charles Alfred Vernon, as well as the latter's father, named Carl, have been committed for trial on a charge of communicating information to the enemy. They pleaded not guilty. Sir Joseph Jones' counsel said the defence was that the information complained of was given in the course of business and was in no wise intentionally anti-British.

AIR SERVICE MYSTERY.

Sir David Henderson Resigns.

A refusal to disclose the nature of the differences between Lord Rothermere and Major-General Sir Hugh Trenchard was the subject of discussion in the House of Commons recently.

It was also announced that Sir David Henderson had tendered his resignation. Sir David is one of the two Vice-Presidents of the Council of the Air Ministry—the other being Sir Henry Norman.

Mr. Bonar Law, in reply to Mr. Pringle, said that before the resignation of General Trenchard was accepted the differences of policy between the General and Lord Rothermere came before the War Cabinet. It was not in the public interest to make a statement on the subject.

Mr. Pringle: Does not the right hon. gentleman recognise the great public interest in this matter, and cannot he make a statement which will allay anxiety?

Mr. Bonar Law: It may be there is public anxiety, but it is obvious one cannot discuss in public questions of principle of this kind.

Mr. Pringle: Is it not the case that the question of principle is not one affecting any war policy, but refers simply to the methods of organisation on which leading experts of the air service have regard to efficiency in the field, whereas the Air Minister has regard to advertising in the Press?

Mr. Bonar Law: The hon. member is apparently giving his own version of the differences of principle.

Mr. Pringle: It is the true one. Mr. Bonar Law: I have said it is not desirable to discuss it.

Sir H. Verney: Has the right hon. gentleman any idea of the dismay and disgust of the Air Service in France on what amounts to a dismissal of this gentleman?

Mr. Bonar Law: No, sir. It is obvious I cannot be expected to answer questions of this kind which must give rise to differences of opinion.

Mr. Hogge: As the Government have already got rid of great officers from the Navy, the Army, and from the Air Service can the right hon. gentleman say how long this practice is to continue of getting rid of competent people?

Mr. Joynton Hicks: Cannot the right hon. gentleman at any rate give us a little more information?

Mr. Bonar Law: I am quite ready to consider that.

Answering a further question by Mr. Pringle, Mr. Bonar Law said the Vice-President of the Air Council, Sir David Henderson, had tendered his resignation on the ground that he felt unable to work with the new Chief of the Air Force (Major-General F. H. Sykes).

Mr. Pringle said he would raise the question on the adjournment.

Sir R. Cooper asked whether Sir R. Cooper would be represented when Mr. Pringle raised the question.

Mr. Bonar Law said he did not feel called upon to attend when ever any individual member raised a debate in the House.

Mr. Pringle: I can say what the right hon. gentleman was doing on the last occasion when there was a debate on the adjournment.

Mr. Hogge: Playing chess. The Speaker: I really must deprecate these very offensive observations. I have already had to reprimand some of the members of the Press Gallery for introducing into the public Press references to the private acts of Ministers when

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph.")

THE SILVER MARKET.

London, July 2.
The silver market is quiet, and was closed on Monday.

THREE TO ONE.

Odds Against General Gough's Army.

Belfast, Ireland, May 4.—Gen. Sir Robert Gough's first public statement regarding the conduct of the 5th British Army, which he commanded in the retreat from St. Quentin, comes in the letter to the Lord Mayor of Belfast.

"The fighting of the Ulster division as, indeed, of all the divisions in the 5th Army, against the greatest odds hurled on any body of troops throughout this great war, was magnificent. The main features of the situation to which the whole 5th Army was exposed are known to everyone, and gives some idea of what those odds were—fourteen infantry divisions against forty German divisions on March 21; reinforced by some eight to ten more German divisions during the subsequent two days.

(A British division was nominally 20,000 at the beginning of the war, but his number has been reduced, according to Lieut. Col. Repington, in some cases to as low as 9,000 men. But estimating a division at 14,000, which is the present German strength, Gen. Gough had only 198,000 men against 560,000 of the enemy when the attack began and these troops were reinforced by 112,000 to 140,000 men.)

"I cannot speak too highly of the splendid calmness and doggedness with which many fellow countrymen met and fought this storm, and though many laid down their lives their splendid tenacity saved the British Empire and France by permitting the arrival of reserves.

"The Corps Commander has issued an order thanking all ranks for the fighting spirit they displayed and reminding them that further deeds of gallantry will be required of them in the coming months."

DON'T FORGET.

TO-DAY.

Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.

TO-MORROW.

Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.

not attending here. If in addition to that hon. members are going to bring forward in this House statements as to what they did in the lobbies, in the smoking rooms, or in the dining-rooms, life will become perfectly intolerable.

Mr. Pringle, later on, on the motion for the adjournment, said that he had since been informed that Mr. Bonar Law proposed, in the event of there being a general desire on the part of members, to give a day to discuss the whole subject. In these circumstances he (Mr. Pringle) did not intend to raise again the question at this stage.

[Lieut. General Sir David Henderson before his appointment to the Air Council had been Director-General of Military Aeronautics and in charge of the military wing of the Royal Flying Corps from the outbreak of war until October last, when he vacated his seat on the Army Council to undertake special work, and Major-General Salmond was appointed his successor. Sir David Henderson was formerly an officer in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, and served with distinction during the Nile Expedition of 1898 and the South African War.]

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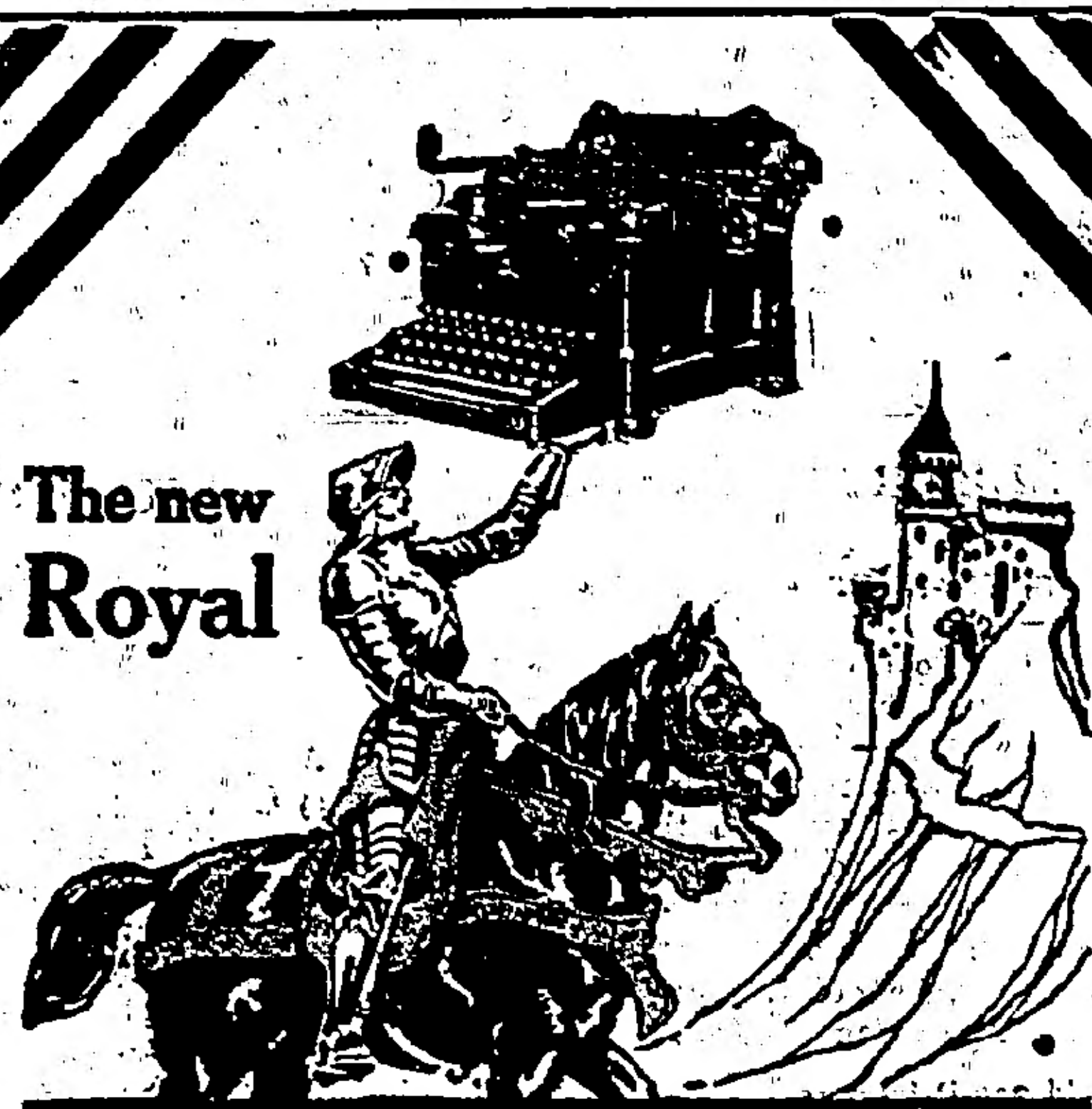
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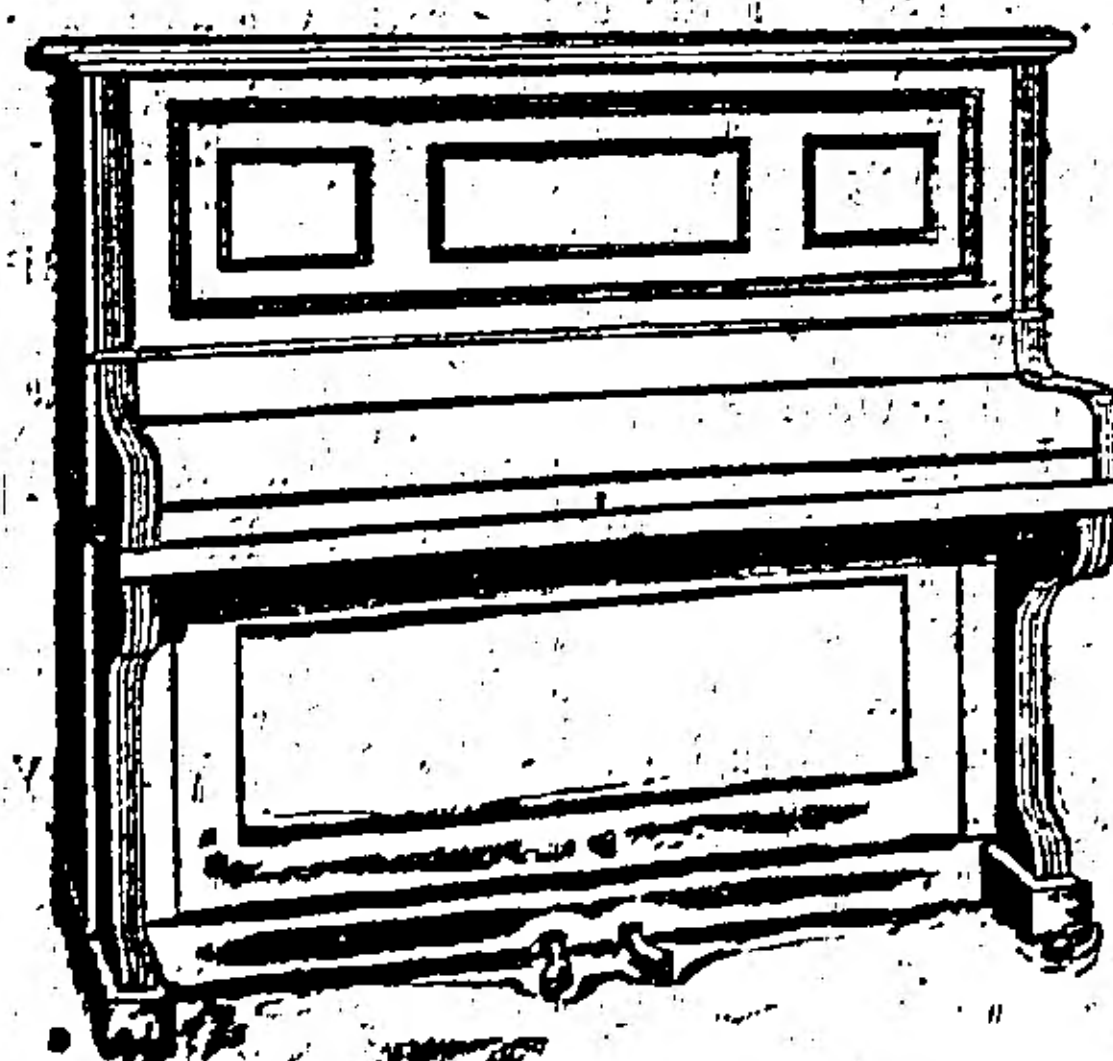
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GENERAL NEWS.

The Coffin Parlour.
Our houses were still built on the principles in use in the time of the Pharaohs, said Mr. Frank Barnes, Principal Architect of the Office of Works, at the Royal Sanitary Institute. Referring to the difficulties of the parlour question, some people thought it ought to be small and poky, others thought that children should do lessons in it, that the piano should stand there, and that coffins should be kept there in case of bereavement.

The American Uniform.
The severe simplicity of the American uniform will be further accentuated, it is announced, by the removal of shoulder straps and other distinctly military appointments in the interest of economy. The high collar of the present uniform will be discarded; it is understood, in favour of the unadorned roll after the style of the British tunic. No canvas will be used in the coats, and the patch-pocket will be done away with, a regular pocket with a flap covering taking its place.

Ruhleben Prisoners' Pictures.
During his two years of internment at Ruhleben, Mr. John Wiggins, the artist, put his impressions on canvas, and the result is to be seen in 47 of his paintings at the Carfax Salons, Bury-street, St. James's, W., an exhibition of which was opened recently. Mr. Wiggins for twenty years lived in Brussels. When the Germans captured the city they deported Mr. Wiggins to Germany. His pictures convey every aspect of life at Ruhleben, one of the most striking of his efforts being "The Roll Call."

Notable Woman Freemason.
An event of interest in the Masonic world has just taken place. The order of Universal Co-Masonry, which admits women to Masonic privileges on equal footing with men, has just initiated Miss Alicia St. Léger Aldworth, great-granddaughter of the original lady Freemason—a daughter of a former Viscount Doneraile. The story of the escape by which she found her way into Freemasonry is well known—how she had secreted herself in a room adjoining a lodge, and on being discovered was given the option of death or being made a Freemason and then bound to secrecy.

French Commerce.
The decision of the French Government to abrogate all commercial treaties containing a favoured nation clause is regarded as France's first step in the economic offensive. The significance of the step will be better grasped if we realise that it is not directed against the Entente countries or neutrals. The French standpoint is that France's economic development has been shackled since 1871, when Germany, by the Treaty of Frankfurt, obtained the benefit of the favoured nation clause—an advantage which she has also reserved to herself in the Brest-Litovsk Treaty, which is not admitted by the Allies. France is at present tied to different countries by 52 treaties and conventions. She now desires a free hand so that she can revise or reconstruct these treaties. It is stated that she has taken this step in full agreement with her Allies, and so far as can be gathered her intention is to place Allies, neutrals, and enemies each in a different category.

Sacks made of Paper.
The inventor of a paper "sack" for potatoes sought the renewal of his exemption at Southwark Tribunal recently. He is secretary and manager of a textile engineering firm, and he said that with another man he had just invented and installed at the firm's works a new machine to make potato bags out of paper. The Government having granted them a license for 1,000 tons of paper to manufacture the material. He produced specimens of the texture made from the paper, and also large bags, the new material, which is waterproof, being closely examined by the tribunal and the National Service representative. Germany had been making paper sacks for years, it was stated. The certificate was withdrawn, and the man granted six months' exemption instead.

LOCAL NEWS.

Famous Family Bible.
A shop of Peterborough, at the British and Bible Society meeting, and in his possession a long to his great-grandfather, the celebrated Fry. It was thumbed and marked all over, and not a page which had handwriting on it. He had whether Bibles were that nowadays.

for an Army List. The Red Cross sale at a copy of the Army List at 1914, with a record of the "Contemptible Army" and a number of photos of leading officers, including Lord Kitchener, Sir Haig, and Lord French, sold for £420 to Sir Charles Field. The Prime Minister's on his "go on or go under" to Labour representatives bought for 24 guineas. The for the day was £4,271.

Waning Welsh Melody.
All but a few of the county is the neglect of music is notable, says the 1917 report of the Welsh Department of the Ministry of Education. "It is a serious national loss; it may be too much to say that there is less knowledge of singing in Wales now than there was 20 years ago. In musical promise can confidently be asserted that Wales is second to no country in the world, but music is crowded out by the numerous examination subjects in the great majority of schools."

Praise for Specials.
London's Chinatown and the Embankment late at night were among the points of interest visited by American delegates recently. At Limehouse a number of special constables were paraded for their inspection, and drew from them a warm tribute of praise. They were also shown in detail the system of registering aliens. The delegates were later to go to Rosyth to see something of the British Navy, and also to visit shipbuilding works on the Clyde and a large munition-making colony.

The War Cabinet.
In the House of Commons recently, Major Hunt asked whether, in view of the fact that the War Cabinet did not contain any members with any practical knowledge of war by sea or land, and in view of the mistakes made by the various Cabinets during the war, the Prime Minister could add to the War Cabinet Admiral Lord Jellicoe and General Sir William Robertson. Mr. Bonar Law:—The Government is not prepared to adopt the suggestion. Major Hunt asked what was the use of War Cabinet when nobody on it understood anything about war. Mr. Bonar Law:—That is rather a difficult conundrum.

£70,000 in the Prize Court.
Sir Samuel Evans, in the Prize Court, condemned as prizes nearly £70,000, the proceeds of sale of three cargoes on British steamships. The first was £43,805 for a cargo of barley from the Black Sea brought by the steamer Elswick Lodge, belonging to the Elswick Steamship Co., of Newcastle. Twenty-six bills of lading showed German buyers. Shipment was before the war. The second case concerned £20,000 worth of gas oil, shipped at Port Arthur for the German Europäische Petroleum Co., and in the third case the proceeds were £3,123 for barley and rye on the steamship Leader.

Lost Argentine.
Sir William Haggard, formerly British Minister to the Argentine, at Oxtown Hall recently, said that owing to the country's prosperity and because the whole place was weighted down with English gold and English railways, revolutions had come to an end. The Germans saw how important it was to us to get our supplies from there, so they had stirred up strikes to prevent supplies coming down to the ships. This country might have had that great land, and for nothing, and it would have been the second most important country in the world to us. He saw a very great authority at the Foreign Office about that country, and was told: "I consider Norway far more important than the Argentine." That man—a nobleman—had since been considered worthy of holding the highest honour under the British Crown.

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GENERAL NEWS.

Death of Aged Scientist.
The death has occurred at Deal at the age of 94 of Mr. Samuel Henry Miller, a noted meteorologist, author, and poet, who had been employed by the Government from time to time on special scientific work. He was awarded a medal by the Dutch Government for an essay in a competition open to the world. The essay, which was on the subject of evaporation, took him three years to write, and the medal he received weighed 11b. For 40 years he had been a Fellow of the Meteorological Society.

Rich Man's Wish for Pauper's Burial.
Though he left a fortune of £41,500, Mr. H. S. Maples, solicitor, of Spalding, Lincolnshire, desired a pauper's burial, his will stating:—"I would like the present union contractor to carry out my funeral as simply as a pauper, and my wife to give each of his children £5 in the Post Office Savings Bank. He gave £50 and his "Diamond Jubilee" orchard in Pinchbeck" to his gardener, William Adcock, saying, "The Government will collar his legacy to pay the duty." Subject to a few small bequests the residue of the personal estate he leaves to his wife, and he directed his executors to allow a post-mortem on any part of his remains that may assist science. The will was made in 1894.

A German in Paris.
A German wearing the uniform of a French soldier was recently arrested on a Paris boulevard under extraordinary circumstances. Though he had a French military book he could not, when challenged, produce his leave card. According to the confession which he made he belonged to a Bavarian regiment which was brought from Russia to take part in the great offensive which, he said, was intended to smash the French lines, hurl the British into the sea, and so end the war. His regiment was so terribly cut up in the battle that he decided

BARONET'S BIGAMY.

Rev. Sir Douglas Scott.
Sentenced to Hard Labour.

Reading at the Old Bailey recently for the Rev. Sir Douglas Edward Scott, who was charged with bigamy, counsel asked the Recorder to regard the second marriage as "an episode of an old man's passion."

Mr. Percival Clarke, prosecuting, said Scott, who was 54, went through a form of marriage with Mrs. Williams, an assistant at the refreshment room at Reading Station, having told her that his wife died two years ago. Pretending that he was a commander in the Navy, he obtained a uniform with decorations and tendered bogus cheques. Det. Sergt. Parkies said Scott, in his early days, had been in the Mercantile Marine. He was ordained in 1905, when he also succeeded to the baronetcy on the death of his cousin. Although the title brought no money, he later inherited two fortunes of £7,000 and £4,000. Becoming engaged to a well-connected young lady in the north, he inserted in the newspaper a fraudulent statement of Lady Scott's death. The banns were published, but the lady's father ascertained the facts. Scott was an undischarged bankrupt, and had been defrauding people by means of cheques. Mr. O'Malley, who defended, said Lady Scott was willing to forgive and look after her husband.

The Recorder, describing Scott's conduct as disgraceful and saying that he had prostituted his sacred office, passed sentence of eighteen months' hard labour.

to fight no more, and one night he crept out into No Man's Land, put on the uniform of a dead French soldier, reached a French clearing station, boarded a train of wounded soldiers, and was brought to Paris.

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"BARBED WIRE DISEASE."

Unconscious Turkish Joke in War Prisoners' Agreement.

Lord Newton, referring in the House of Lords recently to the recognition by the Turkish Government of the agreement regarding exchange of prisoners, said that at first the Turks had desired to exchange any prisoners at all. The "battle" of exchange had been fought round the name of one man, a Turk. He was the one prisoner the Turks were most

anxious to get back, and he was a most valuable asset.

Lord Newton mentioned that of the conditions insisted upon by the Turks, was that plain wire should be substituted for barbed wire round the Turkish prisoner camps in British territory. The Turks had read in the papers of what was called "barbed wire disease." Of course the description was but a paraphrase of "nervous breakdown," but the Turks were under the impression that this was a communicable disease obtained by persons coming into contact with barbed wire. (Laughter.)

The basis of exchange would be 1,000 British for 1,500 Turks.

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By Order, "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 1918.

THE DECIMAL SYSTEM.

There are days when reform is in the air, and it is therefore not surprising that occasion should be taken of the feeling of broad-mindedness engendered by the war to press once again for the revision of the British system of coinage by placing it on a decimal basis. The Association of Chambers of Commerce has recently had under consideration the draft of a Decimal Coinage Bill, and from the observations which we have seen in the Home papers it would appear that the principles underlying this measure are gradually gaining favour among the business men of the Old Country. That is only what would reasonably be expected, for when the matter is looked into it will be found that the reform is urgently needed, not only to bring us into line with all other modern countries, but for the sake of simplification.

The other day, we gave some details of the means by which the decimal system could very easily be applied to British coinage. It was shown in that article that the humble penny was at the bottom of the trouble, and that it would be a simple matter to effect the necessary changes by introducing a new coin to take the place of that unit of currency. The suggestion is that the sovereign should be divided into a thousand parts, the decimal system being followed right down to the lowest value coin. The point naturally suggests itself that if the advantages of reform are so obvious it is strange that the step now urged has not been taken before. One writer ascribes the inertia to popular ignorance, plus the inertia of a conservative race. The two factors undoubtedly have played an important part in the matter. For this is no new suggestion which is now being put forward. It is recalled in one of the Home papers that it was close on a century ago that British business men agitated for the adoption of the decimal system and well over fifty years since the Bank of England subscribed a hundred pounds to the funds of the Decimal Association with the idea of giving the movement an impetus. And yet some eleven years ago when the last Metric Bill was presented to the House of Commons the second reading was rejected by a large majority.

It does not require much thought to realize that the "all-ten" system has everything to commend it, and at a time when ease and rapidity of calculation are sought after, its adoption by Great Britain, both in regard to coinage and weights and measures, would be all to the country's advantage. We in Hongkong know how easily a British system of decimal coinage can work, and business people must often have occasion to deary the awkwardness of the Home system when it comes to the adjusting of accounts and the making of other comparative calculations. It has well been said that there cannot be freedom of trade until those with whom we have commercial dealings understand us and we them with the least possible loss of time and calculation. Therefore, considering the general prevalence of the decimal system, it would assuredly be a wise move on our part to bring ourselves into line with other nations. The arguments in favour of a decimal coinage are unanswerable, and we should much like to see the reform introduced while the present spirit of revising defective systems is manifesting itself.

Japan's Part.

In his interview on the impression of his visit to Japan, Prince Arthur of Connaught, who is no stranger to that country and who is immensely popular among our Far Eastern Allies, did well to dwell upon Japan's loyalty in the war. He spoke of the part she had played and of what she would do if called upon, and we may take it that these were no idle words, but were based upon definite knowledge. It is in naval matters that Japan has most assisted the Allies. The extent of her work in this direction has been far greater than is generally imagined, and Prince Arthur was only expressing the truth when he observed that the operations in the Mediterranean, the Indian Ocean and the Pacific had been largely instrumental in keeping open the world's trade. There is one remark of Prince Arthur's which might be read as reflecting somewhat on the Press; He mentioned the Japanese Navy's work in the Mediterranean as having "received scant attention in the newspapers." That, however, is no fault of the Press, for the rigid censorship regulations naturally operate against any detailed mention of those operations. In common with other papers, we have on many occasions spoken in terms of high praise of what Japan's naval ships have done in this particular sphere, and that that work is deeply appreciated by the Allies as a whole, there can be no doubt whatever.

Germany and The Imperial War Conference.

The Germans, it would seem from the articles appearing in their Press, are very much concerned regarding the meetings of British War Conference, which are at present being held in London. And they have good reason to feel so concerned, for even the superficial knowledge such as they possess of the importance of the Conference is sufficient to cause them no little anxiety. Never before has the Conference assumed so much of an Imperial character and never before has it manifested so plainly that it stands for the British Empire in all its power, strength and majesty. That the Conference looks not to the past but to the future is evident from the nature of the subjects being discussed, which appear to be, with few exceptions, relating to post-war economic problems.

Valuable Lessons Taught.

The war has taught us many valuable lessons and none more valuable than that the British Empire, if it will, can be independent of the whole world for the various commodities required in our different manufactures. Before the war we were far too much inclined to rely upon Germany and other countries for essential natural products and commodities such as dyes and chemicals, which experience has since shown us can be produced within the Empire. Raw materials of various kinds can also be abundantly supplied without going further than our own borders. These facts, always well-known to most British businessmen, will no longer be overlooked, and one of the great results of such a policy will certainly be an Empire more closely united and more self-supporting than the world has ever before known. The Germans are so dismayed at what is being done that all they can suggest is that they continue their insidious attempts to undermine British unity by endeavouring to cause quarrels to arise between different parts of the Empire. But they are much too late in the day; as nothing they can do will ever have the slightest effect upon the splendid solidarity that is now everywhere manifested in the Empire and which has made it more closely united than ever.

Conscription for Women.

Sir Wm. Ball, M. P., is drafting a Bill for the Conscription of women for national service between the ages of 19 and 31, which it is intended to bring before Parliament.

DAY BY DAY.

SOBERITY, SANITY, HEALTH, GOOD CHEER AND POSITIVE USEFULNESS TO HUMANITY ARE ALL PRIMAL REQUISITES IN EDUCATION.

To-morrow's Anniversary.
To-morrow is Independence Day in the United States.

The Dollar.

The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 3s. 3½d.

Discharged.

A Chinese was charged, before Mr. J. R. Wood this morning with being a vagabond and sleeping in the street. There was also found on him a number of pawn tickets. One of defendant's folkies appeared to speak on defendant's behalf and said accused was returning to his shop that night and as he did not want to disturb the occupants he remained in the street. His Worship discharged defendant with a caution.

The Colony's Health.

During last week there were notified 29 cases of spotted fever (27 fatal), 22 of plague (18 fatal), 11 of enteric (all fatal), two fatal occurrences of diphtheria and one non-fatal case of puerperal fever. All the sufferers were Chinese. One Filipino suffering from enteric. During yesterday there were notified six cases of spotted fever (all fatal), 12 of plague (eight fatal) and one fatal case of enteric. All the sufferers were Chinese.

Too Many Lights.

Mr. G. H. M. Bannerman, of the Hongkong Electric Co., summoned the manager of the Sunlight Co., of 18, Pottinger Street, this morning with having erected two extra lights in his establishment. It appeared the defendant was away in Canton when the summons was served and someone else appeared on his behalf. Mr. Bannerman said when he called at the premises defendant offered to apologise for what he had done. Mr. J. R. Wood adjourned the case, and a warrant will be issued for defendant's arrest as soon as he returns.

WAR COMFORTS.

City Hall Work Party.

During the month of June, the City Hall Work Party packed the following:—38 mosquito nets, 518 handkerchiefs, 56 pairs slippers, 14 pairs bed-boots, 112 milk covers, 10 head-bandages, 36 many tailed bandages, 32 stump-bandages, 16 reversible bed-jackets, 29 dressing-gowns, 185 suits pyjamas, 15 vermin shirts, 12 cotton shirts, 85 bed-jackets, 19 surgical suits, 96 shirtings, 27 pairs socks, 8 helmets, 187 vests, 153 shirts, 20 small pillows, 12 packs playing-cards, 26 scrubbers, 1 surgical cap, 2 night-shirts, 3 pairs bed-socks, 2 pairs knee-caps, 10 surgical shirts, 5 mufflers and by kind contribution 11 bed-jackets. These were packed in seven cases, three of which were sent to the Red Cross distributing centre at Bombay, two to the 15th General Hospital, Alexandria, and two to Mrs. A.E. Barton, Rawal Pindi, India.

The Wool Department packed 384 pairs socks, 25 caps, 62 pairs knee-caps, and 3 pairs operation stockings.

The Mothers' Union's contribution to the June's packing, consisted of 7 vests, 9 shirts, 8 pairs socks, 8 suits pyjamas, 8 bed-jackets, 12 milk covers, 12 handkerchiefs, 6 head-bandages, 1 pair gloves, and 2 night-shirts.

E. LAMBERT.

(for Mrs. N. J. Stabb).

A letter has been recently received from Miss Rutherford, Assistant Master of the Royal Herbert Hospital at Woolwich, an extract of which we publish below, and we are going to forward a case there, of the articles she asks for:—"I wonder if you would let the Ladies of the City Hall Work Party know that I would very much appreciate a box of articles for the Hospital here. The usual dressings will be most acceptable, with pyjamas, triangular bandages, open-backed shirts, added in addition."

VICTORY A MATTER OF CONVICTION.

Sanguine Estimate of French General.

The Daily Chronicle's special correspondent, G. H. Parris, writes under date of April 18:—"Victory is a matter of conviction." The moral factor is the most important of all. It would be right against nature that we should not beat these authors of so many infamies, and now we may say with more confidence than ever that we shall beat them.

The tone of deep sincerity in which the moral issue of the war was thus presented surprised me a little, for the speaker was not a Catholic priest or a Radical professor, but one of the coolest and keenest chiefs of the French army. The General, commander of the forces which first intervened on the breakdown of the British right, stood amid his maps and staff reports, a short, trim figure in blue jacket and long boots, looking younger than his 56 years, but for a tired gravity in the eyes.

The rule of anonymity is severer with our Allies than with us, and the General is not one of the men most widely known even among his own people. He was, perhaps, more in the public eye early in the war for the part he had taken under Foch in the defence of the French centre in the battle of the Marne. Then came the long inertia of the trenches, when exceptional gifts were blanketed.

On March 23 he was called on to block the Paris road about Noyon and to throw first cavalry, then infantry, out further and further. To the north-west, picking up the isolated units left by the Army, stiffening the resistance as the odds diminished one to ten, one to eight, one to four, and at last, still greatly outnumbered, fighting von Hutier to a standstill.

Whether, as most Frenchmen think, Paris was in any immediate sense one of the German objectives we shall know in time. In any case the General has the glory of having built the first human wall against the worst flood of the war, and whether for speed of vision and execution, manoeuvring skill, material expedients, or power of inspiring his men, it is one of the great feats of the time.

For half an hour he spoke quietly, reflectively, without a gesture or a rhetorical phrase, of the critical moments of the struggle and what may follow. It seemed to me characteristic of a gallant nature that he was in nothing warmer than in his appreciation of the qualities of the groups of British soldiers whom he had to reform. It is so easy to kick a man when he is down, to belittle the defeated even when most of them have paid in their blood for their failure.

The full story cannot yet be told, but everything indicates that our men about and south of St. Quentin put up a good fight, and showed an obstinate bravery equal to that of their more fortunate comrades elsewhere. The fault, if there was any, was not theirs. No out can speak more authoritatively than the General, and he is positive "they are admirable soldiers." Since the came under my command I have found the officers most loyal, the men excellent in discipline and in fighting qualities, and the British artillery gave us peculiarly valuable aid. I have written to England to say so. After so many hesitant voices those words fell upon grateful ears.

And here was another characteristic thing, a characteristic omission. The General had been speaking of the mechanism of battle and the decisive importance of enduring till the proverbial last quarter of an hour. "Two great armies face each other in line. They grapple feeling their way, strike here or there to find a weak place, wear each other down, and at length the crisis comes when one of them attempts a decisive manoeuvre. And other things being equal, it is then he who can throw in a sufficient mass who wins. So nearly always the great one-day battles of history were lost until evening, when a final stroke turned the scales."

"It was at Jena; at Marengo, which made Napoleon; at Waterloo, which unmade him, when Blucher came up in the evening." And, appropriate as it would have been, the General did not add that was supremely so in the no less momentous battle of Mondemont—Fère—Champanoise in September 1914. Foch and his lieutenants have indeed won the right to preach this doctrine.

What, then, of to-morrow? We are nearing the end of the trial, if not the execution. We know what we have before us. We cannot yet say that this is the last battle, but we can say that it is the decisive battle, because the enemy has thrown into it the mass of his resources, and his failure will be decisive. The Allied armies, moved by a single will and governed by the idea of the last stroke for victory will say the last word.

"We have husbanded our strength," the general insisted. "We have arrested the enemy, and now hold him firmly. Thanks to a superior artillery and a greatly superior aviation, we are wearing him down."

"If it has not succeeded in a month, what prospect of success has it? It can strike some more severe blows. But we are daily better prepared, and daily their case is worse."

"Up to now, in less than four weeks, a number of German divisions have been engaged. Perhaps more divisions can be thrown into the battle. On the other hand, many of those now in line are in a lamentable state, and others brought back for the second or third time can be little better."

"For the first time the German 1919 class has been used to a considerable extent to complete effectives. Very soon, with British and American reinforcements, we shall have the margin we want."

Finally, the General spoke of the difference of moral on the two sides, "the most important factor." The German rank and file entered the battle in high enthusiasm. They were newly clad and rested, they saw around them all the signs of a prodigious preparation, a machinery and a method the power of which was evident, but not the costliness in flesh and blood.

A careful propaganda had turned their wishes into thought that all this must be irrefragable, that the war would be ended and peace won by crushing the two chief Allies, France and England, before America could come into the field. Their disillusionment must be proportionate to these hopes, and, in fact, it is markedly visible among the prisoners.

Our men, on the other hand, have learned to wait, and can wait. They understand and appreciate how they are husbanded, they understand their cause, and they would all say with the general that it is "Against nature" that it should fail. Well may it be said of such an issue that "Victory is a matter of conviction."

THAT TIRED FEELING

these mornings is most likely due to "liver." The remedy is

PINKETTES

the little laxatives which aid digestion, cure Constipation, "liveriness," dizziness, bilious headaches, foul smelling breath. Of all chemists, and post free, 60 cents the phial, from Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 98 Nassau Road, Shanghai.

U.S. Import and Export Rates.

In place of the cancelled export and import rates, which were omitted from the originally announced policy of basing all trans-continental charges on the flat domestic rate, special rates for imports approximating an increase of from 45 to 100 per cent. over former landed import rates, and an increase on the export rate west from Chicago of some 60 per cent. have gone into effect, say cablegrams received at the office of the Governor General and by local commercial firms yesterday, says the Manila Bulletin of June 26.

TO-DAY'S MISCELLANY.

In these days of stirring deeds in the air it may surprise many people to learn that recently, in a discussion which arose in a R.F.C. mess in France on the pluckiest flying deed on record, first place was given to Blériot's memorable cross-Channel flight. Only those who have flown know the capital value to the airman of confidence in his machine. The dud engine in the dark spectre of his dreams, and yet Blériot crossed the Channel on a machine which had never remained in the air for the time he calculated it would take him to make his Channel flight, and one of his gravest doubts was the machine's ability to reach England with sufficient height to clear the cliffs.

No great sex triumph can be claimed in the announcement that six sidesmen have been appointed at St. John's, Tottenham, for the office has lost much of its dignity and usefulness. When sidesmen were syndicates, their duties were to hale all persons suspected of heresy before a Church. But nowadays the functions of their office are fulfilled in leading assistance to the churchwardens.

On a train travelling from Halifax to Montreal a soldier's wife belonging to the latter city gave birth to twins. The interesting feature of the event for those outside the home circle is the fact that the first baby to arrive, a boy, was born in United States territory, and the second baby, a girl, in Canada. So the boy born in the U.S.A. must remain an "infant" until he is 21, when he will have the choice of remaining an American or becoming a Canadian citizen.

Speaking generally we have not found smokers inclined to murmur against the new tobacco duty. The extra 2d., though a rather big jump, will in many cases be more, than counterbalanced by the new "wife allowance." Moreover, the patriotic smoker is no longer in a quandary, for the Chancellor makes it quite clear that the additional tax is to help pay for the war and is not intended as a deterrent. "I have impressed upon the Shipping Controller," he told us, "that in importing tobacco he is importing money." A cheery invitation to light up and look pleasant!

Although we have not hitherto had a three-halfpenny post the "two-penny post" is within living memory. We associate it with Dickens and Thackeray, but its origin was of the seventeenth century. It was founded on the "penny post" set up in London and the suburbs by Mr. Robert Murray, an apothecary, in 1683. He assigned his interest in the undertaking to Mr. Dockwra, a merchant, but on a trial in the King's Bench it was adjudged to belong to the general post, and was annexed to the Crown in 1690. The "two-penny post" lasted, with a short interval, until 1840, when Rowland Hill's penny post was adopted.

Two generations of junior reporters will be sorry to hear of the death of Mr. Fenwick, the Northumberland Labour member (writes a veteran Pressman) for without doubt he was the most delightful speaker, from the reporter's point of view, who ever addressed an audience. His delivery was extremely slow and deliberate—so slow that the veriest shorthand novice could easily take down and transcribe every word that the speaker uttered. A great deal more peace of mind would be enjoyed by shorthand reporters if there were a few more orators of the Fenwick type.

The admission of Admiral von Ospelle that the U boat war has been a failure moves the Hamburg Nachrichten to a fierce demand for peace and yet more activity. "Our U boats in the long run cannot fail to bring about England's utter collapse. The U boat war is the surest—nay, the only mortal—weapon against sinking every ship at sight."

WAR COMMENT.

A Home Letter to Soldiers Overseas.

London, May 7th.—There is spring in the air, grey, drab, busy old London has taken on a new colour and a new juvenility in the spring sunshine. In front of the house where I am writing a plane tree and a chestnut, that only a few days ago stood stark naked in their winter gauntness, seem to have decked themselves in a single night in their summer green. I could swear they had nothing on the last time I looked at them.

On my desk a blaze of scarlet geraniums and slender white narcissi, with their ears pressed back, bring right home to me the transition from winter to summer. And when I walk out in the streets the seagulls on the Embankment have given place to pigeons, and the midshipmen on shore leave have exchanged their blue caps for white with the coming of May. There is new life in this old London of ours. The grimness of war seems, for the moment, further away than a week or two ago, especially as the news from France grows better every day. There is hope in the air and the fruit trees are blossoming and the birds are piping. After all it isn't such a bad war.

That is what an English spring means to us who are watching events with so much anxiety from afar. I wonder if spring in France has not also some cheering message for those who are steeped in the bloody business of battle. I wonder if it helps to remind the war-worn and weary that there is something outside all the filth and ferocity of fighting that is worth fighting for. Nature goes on all the time tingeing the world with beauty. The sun shines down even upon No Man's Land. Even amid the desolation of Armageddon the crocuses push their heads shyly through the grass and the roses, and there are blissing glories of poppies that move poets to song and waken something or other in the hearts of mere ordinary men like ourselves.

I am sure there must be a good deal of the spirit of home in the hearts of you men overseas—I don't mean only homesickness, though God knows you must suffer from that, but home-love, home-memories, love of England—or Scotland or Ireland or Wales—or Manxland. I can see it shining out of the faces of the wounded in the ambulances, as they reach home. There are good, kindhearted women who wait at the terminus stations to meet the hospital trains and shower flowers on the wounded, as though to say:—"Thank you for all you have done for us." And they are amply rewarded for their trouble by the grateful smiles they receive in return. There is nothing more wonderful in Blighty to-day than the smiles and the cheeriness of the boys in butcher blue. I never used to believe the people who wrote of "the cheerful spirit of our wounded." I thought it was mere journalistic "flam." But it's true, marvellously true. Since I visited hospitals and had talks with some of the men in the wards I have been busy recommending a hospital visit as a cure for dumps and depression.

That is why I feel quite confident that the Prime Minister is speaking [by the book when he says, on his return from the Front:—"The Message I bring from the British Army to the people at home is 'Be of good cheer: we are all right'." The British Army always has been all right. There are still a few cynics and pessimists among us, of not much account but with a mighty belief in their own importance, who ridicule such a statement. They are men who have never been touched with the spirit of sacrifice, men who have never suffered a hardship of discomfort themselves and simply don't understand the feeling that makes us want to "do our bit" for our country. They go on yapping about "universal brotherhood" and "peace by negotiation." As if there ever could be brotherhood between a British seaman and the seamen who fire on women and children in open boats! As if there could be

negotiation with an unbeaten people who still to-day are breaking every law of humanity and every treaty, convention and agreement to which they have ever signed their names.

There is an old catch-phrase which has lately become popular in towns. It has been going about for years, I believe; at any rate a friend of mine tells me he used to hear it in Gallipoli. But it's only recently that I heard it at a music hall. "That's the stuff to give 'em." I am reminded of it by the statement of a German officer after a recent show down near the Somme. "We had good men like that once," he said, talking of the men who had made him prisoner, "but look at what we have got now." He pointed to a couple of hundred sorry-looking Boches guarded by a handful of British and Australian soldiers. "I have seen our big men gradually go down since the beginning of the war, and these are the men who are left to Germany now." He was very depressed, and little wonder, for he had come up against the British fighting man at his best, just as did the thirteen Boche divisions that met about three of ours on April 29th between Vermesele and Ridge Wood. Then they went back with their tails down. The British fighting man—"That's the stuff to give 'em" every time. And the French fighting man too, if it comes to that, for we have learnt just exactly what a dam good fighter the poilu is.

You who live overseas have one thing at any rate to be thankful for—you are safe from the untiring activities of Dora. Dora is the presiding deity of our lives at home. Strong men are powerless, when Dora puts her foot down. There never was a suffragette so material as Dora. Her powers are enormous and she is no respecter of persons. Only a day or two ago a Justice of the Peace was fined £5 for allowing his coachman to feed a sick horse on oats. "If you think the practice should be discontinued," he wrote to the court trying the case, "will you tell us what we should feed it on?" The bench was unable to advise, but said that Dora forbade horses to be fed on oats and what Dora said went. Dora is an absolute tyrant, but we all obey her just because she is D.O.R.A.—the Defence of the Realm Act. We submit to her orders because we know that it is all part of the Great Contribution towards winning the war. Dora's latest is to forbid the manufacture of dog biscuits. When I told my dog, he threatened to go on hunger strike. But Dora doesn't care; I suppose I must just look pleasant about it. But I feel inclined to send her this bit of doggerel, just to express my feelings in the matter:—

It isn't any use to frown
When Dora puts her trilly down.
She must not be disobeyed
By man or wife or boy or maid;
To her methods we're resigned,
For if we flout her we'll get fined.
By her minions we'll be chased
If we ever dare to waste.
Food, especially cereals,
And all sorts of materials,
Oats and dogs must not be fed
On milk or biscuits, meat or bread.
For a horse a diet oaten
Is most rigidly verboten,
She bans our cakes, she bans our smokes
She even bans my naughty jokes,
She bans our food, she bans our drink,
It's hardly even safe to think,
She bans our coal and bans our gas.
She must be an a-ban-doned lass
I only hope that, after the war,
A Ban will be placed on Mam's sells
Dora.

The wife a young Cockney I knew in the Umpire Battalion of the London Regiment, who used to say:—"It's all very well their cluckin' boksays at us and callin' us 'bloomin' heroes and blucky patriots and all that. But wait till peace breaks out and you go back to your grateful country and ask one of 'em for a job. They'll say:—"Wot, you enlisted, did you, without waitin' to be fetched. Foodish fella. I'm sorry, my lad, but there's nothin' doin' 'ere." Er, Jenkins, will you show this person the way out. Good-ood morning." My friend was a pessimist—also he had heard of what happened to soldiers after other wars. But is isn't true of this war. The country really is

FAMILY LITIGATION.

Interesting Point in Chinese Custom.

A somewhat involved, but nevertheless interesting, case is being fought out at the Supreme Court this week, before the Chief Justice, Sir William Rees Davies.

The story of the dispute is that several years ago, an old Chinese, living in a small village, died, leaving a considerable amount of property behind him. He also left a will, and, according to this, his estate was to be divided into ten parts, six parts of which were to be set aside as ancestral worshiping funds controlled by his "sons and grandsons forever." The other four portions he allotted to various members of the family. A dispute arose over the leaving of the six parts for ancestral worship, and after legal proceedings it was decided that the deceased had no right to leave the money as he did and that the money would have to be divided among his sons. The eldest son then came forward and claimed a double share of the remaining money, doing so on the ground that it was according to Chinese law and custom that he should be given it. The other branches of the family disputed this, and further legal proceedings have been pending. Some time ago it was decided by a Full Court that the issue should be judged by Chinese law and customs, and the Chief Justice is now sitting to judge whether the son of the eldest son (as the eldest son has died) should have a double share of the sum originally set aside for ancestral worship, or whether all the branches should take equal shares. The whole point at issue is whether Chinese law and custom entitles the eldest son's successor to claim what he is seeking.

There are many parties represented at the hearing, the Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., Mr. O. G. Alabaster, Mr. Eldon Potter and Mr. F. C. Jenkins, being the counsel engaged. At the hearing yesterday, Mr. Pollock opened, and later evidence was given by Mr. S. B. C. Ross, Postmaster-General and formerly District Officer in the New Territories, as to the Chinese customs. He stated that it was almost invariably the custom for the eldest son of an intestate father to take two shares of the property, but he did not think that that applied all over China. In the present case the elders of the deceased's village would have dealt with the estate according to the local law and customs.

This morning, Mr. Eldon Potter, who is appearing for the eldest branch claiming the two shares, addressed his Lordship on the question of custom, contending that his client was entitled to a double share. The hearing was again adjourned.

determined to do its best for the men who fought for it. The whole problem of demobilisation—getting men out of the army into jobs—is being tackled in an efficient and sympathetic manner.

We have a Minister of Reconstruction and a Minister of Pensions and hundreds of public bodies and organisations whose whole business is concerned with the future of the soldier. New schemes are being continually launched to make life worth living—after the war. The latest was before the House of Commons last week. It provided for the construction of 300,000 houses for the working classes at the public expense. Each house is to contain a living room, a parlour, a scullery and three bedrooms. There will never be more than twelve houses to the acre and in the country only eight. (In some parts of London to-day there are 60 houses to the acre!) Valuable prizes are being offered for the best designs and the whole thing is well on its way to being an accomplished fact, instead of a mere dream. England should indeed be a better place to live in.

"OLD CROCK."

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CORRESPONDENCE.

(The opinions expressed by correspondents are not necessarily those of the "Hongkong Telegraph.")

TYPHOON WARNINGS.

(To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph.")

Sir,—The readings of an Ordinary Aneroid barometer were of much more value than the information conveyed by the signals during the approach of the recent typhoon. Doubtless the lack of returns from the Philippines was largely responsible for this. The Press, however, did its best in giving us the position of the blow from time to time. The latest, in this morning's paper, gives us Lat 240 N., Long 1150 E. as the position, where the typhoon is filling up! Lat 190 N. and Long 122 E. is also given as a previous position.

Yours etc.,
SPECTATOR.
Hongkong, July 2nd, 1918.

MESSAGE FROM BOTTOM OF SEA.

Thrilling Story of Mishap to Submarine.

The rescue of the crew of a submarine from the bottom of the sea is the subject of a thrilling tale told in the London *Gazette* by the announcement of the posthumous award of the Albert Medal in gold to Commander Francis H. H. Goodhart, D.S.O., R.N.

"Owing to an accident, the submarine became fast on the bottom in 38 feet of water, parts of the vessel becoming flooded. After several hours the only prospect of saving those remaining on board appeared to be for someone to escape from the submarine in order to concert measures with the rescuers, who were by this time present on the surface.

"Commander Goodhart after consultation with the commanding officer, volunteered to make the attempt. After placing in his belt a tin cylinder with instructions for the rescuers, he went into the conning tower with the commanding officer. The conning tower was flooded up to their waists, and the high-pressure air was turned on; the clips of the conning tower were knocked off and the conning tower lid was soon wide open.

"Commander Goodhart then stood up in the dome, took a deep breath, and made his escape, but, unfortunately, was blown by the pressure of air against part of the superstructure, and was killed by the force of the blow.

"The commanding officer, whose intention it had been to return inside the submarine after Commander Goodhart's escape, was involuntarily forced to the surface by the air pressure, and it was thus rendered possible for the plans for rescuing those still inside the submarine to be carried out.

"Commander Goodhart displayed extreme and heroic daring in attempting to escape from the submarine in order to save the lives of those remaining on board, and thoroughly realised the forlorn nature of his act. His last remark to the commanding officer was:—"If I don't get up, the tin cylinder will."

RELIEF FOR CHINA'S HOMELESS.

Li Sum-ling's Mission to Manila.

Li Sum Ling, counsellor to the Minister of Finance of China and formerly auditor of the "Five Power Loan," has arrived in Manila from Peking where he comes to have a conference with Governor General Harrison concerning public subscriptions to "The North China Flood Relief Committee."

Mr. Li Sum Ling in commenting on his mission and affairs in China said (according to the *Manila Bulletin*):—"There are now 5,000,000 people in North China who are homeless and without food owing to the fact that their lands have been flooded. The damage to property and crops amounts to millions of pesos. These people are really in dire distress and any help afforded them at this time will be deeply appreciated by the inhabitants and the Peking government. I fully intend to take this matter up with Governor General Harrison during this week. The Filipinos, Americans and foreigners in the Philippines have already given some assistance to the sufferers."

"The Peking government is now trying to get mediators to bring about peace between the northern and southern leaders and I am of the opinion that this matter will be adjusted in a very short time."

"Peking can now boast of two English dailies, managed and edited by Chinese journalists who have been educated in the United States."

"All the German teachers in the employ of the Chinese government have been dismissed and practically all the German businesses are now the property of the government. The former president of China now living in a beautiful building in the German concession at Tientsin."

"A large group of Chinese journalists will visit the Philippines next year on their way to Sydney, Australia, to attend The World Press Conference."

JUNE RAINFALL.

Over Twenty-six inches.

The rainfall during June, as registered at the Botanic Gardens, was as follows:—

| Date. | Inch. |
|-------|-------|
| 1st | .11 |
| 2nd | 1.77 |
| 3rd | .42 |
| 4th | 1.30 |
| 5th | .90 |
| 6th | .58 |
| 7th | .21 |
| 8th | .01 |
| 9th | 2.15 |
| 10th | 1.15 |
| 11th | 1.75 |
| 12th | .89 |
| 13th | 2.01 |
| 14th | 2.70 |
| 15th | 2.20 |
| 16th | 5.02 |
| 17th | 2.03 |
| 18th | .38 |
| 19th | .45 |
| 20th | .02 |
| 21st | — |
| 22nd | — |
| 23rd | .11 |
| 24th | .01 |
| 25th | .09 |
| 26th | — |
| 27th | — |
| 28th | — |
| 29th | — |
| 30th | — |
| Total | 26.24 |

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|---------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| SHANGHAI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA | *Sado Maru T. 12,500 | TUES., 19th July, at 11 a.m. |
| | *Kawachi Maru T. 12,500 | FRI., 19th July, at 11 a.m. |
| | *Aki Maru T. 12,500 | SAT., 20th July, at 11 a.m. |
| NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA | *Tango Maru T. 13,500 | SATURDAY, 17th Aug. |

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| NIPPON MARU | 11,000 | 8th November. |

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TO
UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.

For particulars of sailings shippers are requested to approach the undersigned.

Steamers proceed via Cape of Good Hope.

Subject to change without notice.

THE BANK LINE, LTD.,
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Hongkong, Jan. 2, 1917.

SHIPPING

C. N. C.

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

| For | Steamers | To Sail |
|--------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| SHANGHAI | Suiyang | 4th July at 5 p.m. |
| SWATOW & SINGAPORE | Linan | 5th July at noon. |
| TIENSIN | Huichow | 7th July at 11 a.m. |
| SHANGHAI | Sungkiang | 9th July at noon. |

SHANGHAI LINE.—PASSENGERS, MAILS AND CARGO. Excellent Saloon accommodation Amidships; Electric Light and Fans in Saloon and State-rooms. Regular schedule service between Canton, Hongkong and Shanghai, taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports. Passengers are landed in Shanghai, avoiding the inconvenience of transshipment at Woosung.

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Hongkong July 2, 1918.BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
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JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN.

Regular Fortnightly Service between
CHINA and JAPAN.

| Steamer | From | Expected on or about | Will leave on or about | To |
|------------|-------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------|
| Tiliwong | Kobe & Moji | in port | 4th July | Macassar |
| Tijmanoeck | Amoy | 6th July | 10th July | Batavia |

The steamers are all fitted throughout with electric light and have accommodation for a limited number of saloon-passengers. All steamers carry a duly qualified surgeon. Cargo taken at through rates to all ports in Netherlands-India and Australia.

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DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP CO., LD.

HONGKONG & SOUTH CHINA COAST PORT SERVICE.

Regular Service of Fast, High Class Coast Steamers having good accommodation for first Class Passengers, Electric Light and Fans in Saloon and Saloon and Excellent Cuisine.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOCHOW AND RETURN.
(Occupying 9 to 10 days.)

| Steamships | Captain | Leaving |
|------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| Halifax | A. E. Hodgkins | THURS., 4th July at 3 p.m. |
| Halibong | J. W. Evans | TUES., 9th July at 1 p.m. |

FOR SWATOW.

Arrivals and Departures from the Company's Wharf (near Blake Pier).

For Freight and Passage, apply to

Douglas Lapraik & Co.,
General Managers.INDO-CHINA STEAM
NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

(Projected Sailings from Hongkong.—Subject to Alteration.)

| For | Steamship | On |
|----------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|
| HAIPHONG via Hoibow Takang | Yuenang | Thurs., 4th July at 7 a.m. |
| MANILA | Yuenang | Fri., 5th July at 3 p.m. |
| SHANGHAI | Taisang | Sat., 6th July at 11 a.m. |
| MANILA | Loongang | Fri., 12th July at 3 p.m. |
| CALCUTTA | Loongang | Fri., 12th July at 3 p.m. |

SINGAPORE LINE.—This line is temporarily discontinued owing to the war, but at present a monthly service is maintained with Calcutta by the "SWAN" and "VIV" calling at with Electric Light and Fans, and carries a fully qualified surgeon.

SHANGHAI LINE.—Sailings approximately every five days between Canton and Shanghai, sometimes calling at Swatow. Steamers on this line have a limited amount of passenger accommodation, and through bills of lading are issued to all Northern and Yangtze Ports via Shanghai.

MANILA LINE.—A weekly service is maintained with Manila by vessels with good passenger accommodation, sailings from both ports every Friday.

HAIPHONG LINE.—Sailings approximately weekly for passengers and cargo, calling at Hoihow, Swatow, Borneo, etc.

CARGO LINE.—One sailing per month between Hongkong and Sandakan by a steamer having up-to-date accommodation for passengers.

Under Straits Government Passport Regulations.

All European Passengers, leaving the Colony for Straits Settlement, are required to produce on arrival at destination passports with their Photographs and description affixed thereto.

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SHIPPING NEWS.

Japanese Steamers Chartered to U.S.A.

All the 24 Japanese steamers, aggregating 150,000 tons, chartered to the United States, have left Japan for America except the Ide-maru, of the Katsuda Kisen Kaisha, on which a boiler tube was damaged in Kobe, while the vessels so far delivered to the American authorities number 13. Owing to necessary repairs, the departure of the Ide-maru will be put off to about the 23rd instant. There have been pending questions regarding the salaries to be given to the crews of the steamers chartered to the United States and also in connection with war risk insurance, but these questions have now been all settled. The crews are to receive seven times their ordinary allowance, and the American authorities have agreed to pay 30 per cent. of this extra allowance. The ships are to be insured against war risks for \$720 per ton in regard to those which are less than 20 years of age, and for \$540 in respect of those which are older. Of these two sums the American Government has agreed to cover \$300 and \$175 respectively, the remainder being borne by the Japanese Government. The use of the steamers chartered is left entirely to the American authorities. It was at first reported they would be used for the transport of munitions of war from the United States to Europe, but it is believed that they will be commissioned to carry nitre from Chile. As a matter of fact, the Adaka-maru, of the Tatsuma Kisen Kaisha, left the United States for Chile at the end of May. The Aikoku-maru, of the Uchida Kisen Kaisha, was also on her way to Chile when she met with an accident.

French Shipping.

The "Journal Officiel" publishes a decree from Mr. Bonissou, Commissioner of Transports and of the Merchant Marine, nominating an "Executive Committee of Transports" to control the employment of vessels requisitioned by the French Government. The committee consists of—Mr. Breton, director of the Chargeurs Reunis, Mr. Dal Piaz, director of the Compagnie Generale Transatlantique, Mr. Fraissinet, director of the Compagnie Maritime de Navigation, a Vapeur, Mr. Fouet, director of the Societe Navale de l'Quest, Mr. Hubert-Giraud, managing director of the Societe des Transports Maritimes, Mr. Philippart, director of the Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes, Mr. Worms, of the firm of Worms and Co. The appointment of this committee is the result of the Inter-Allied Conference which was recently held at Paris, and its object will be to apportion to the various trade services the vessels which have been requisitioned and chartered by the French Government; to fix the nature of the loading of cargo, and arrange the best possible use of the available tonnage; and to consider ways and means of maintaining French trade abroad and with the colonies consistent with the carriage of essential war materials and of food to France. This committee will be guided by considerations which suggest the creation of a similar department under the control of the British Shipping Controller. It must arrange for the transport of goods and products purchased by France from her Allies and from neutrals; but it has to bear in mind the strong claims of the French colonies. Many of them supply products which are not considered urgent or essential to the successful prosecution of the war, but if they are not taken and marketed by France economic distress and ruin will result to the colonies. France does not require to import all the products of her colonies, but she must provide the tonnage to enable them to ship to foreign countries the surplus which is not required for French consumption. As an example, it is advocated that tonnage for shipment from Brazil should be provided only for shipments of war essentials when the colonies are in a position to furnish other commodities produced in Brazil, and the committee is charged to keep this phase of the inter-colonial situation of France in the forefront of its deliberations.

NOTICES.

WELLS FARGO & CO.
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fortnightly joint-service of the

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Next departures from HONGKONG:

| Steamers | tons | Sailings |
|------------------|--------|------------------|
| To SAN FRANCISCO | 8,000 | 18th July, 1918. |
| Rotterdam | 10,000 | 25th July. |
| Oranje | 8,000 | 9th Aug. |

These superior passenger-steamers have excellent accommodation for first and second class saloon passengers.

For further particulars apply to:

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LLOYD

TELEPHONE 1574-1575-1576.

NOTICE.

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KAISHA, LTD.

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MORABAN, OTABE, VLADIVOSTOK,
TOKYO, PEKING, TIENTSIN, DAIKIN,
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CONSIGNEES

THE WATERHOUSE STEAM-
SHIP LINES LTD.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

From SEATTLE AND
YOKOHAMA.

THE Steamship

"THORDIS"

having arrived, from the above
Ports, Consignees of Cargo by
her are hereby notified that all
Goods are being landed at their
risk into the hazardous and/or
extra hazardous Godowns of the
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf
and Godown Co., Ltd., whence
and/or from the wharves delivery
may be obtained.

Goods not cleared by the 4th
July at 5 p.m. will be sub-
ject to rent.

All broken, chafed and dam-
aged packages are to be left in
the Godowns, where they will be
examined by Messrs. Goddard &
Douglas, on 4th July 1918, at
9.30 a.m. Claims against the
steamer must be presented with-
in 10 days of arrival otherwise
they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be
effected by us in any case what-
ever.

Bills of Lading will be counter-
signed by

JARDINE, MATHESON
& CO., LTD.
General Managers.
Hongkong, 27th June, 1918.

CONSIGNEES

TOYO KISEN KAISHA.

s.s. "KIYO MARU."

From SOUTH AMERICAN
PORTS via SAN FRANCISCO,
HONOLULU & JAPAN
PORTS.

The above named steamer
having arrived, consignees of
cargo are hereby notified to
send in their Bills of Lading for
counter-signature, and to take
immediate delivery from along-
side.

Cargo remaining undelivered
on 3rd July, 1918, at 5 P.M., will
be landed at consignees' risk and
expense, and delivery must then
be taken from the Company's
Godown.

Storage charges will be assessed
on all cargo remaining un-
delivered on 8th July, 1918, at
5 P.M.

No Fire Insurance whatever
will be effected.

No Claim will be recognised
after the goods have left the
Steamer or Godown.

All chafed and damaged cargo
will be landed into the Company's
Godowns, where it will be ex-
amined on 8th July, 1918, at
10 A.M.

No Claim will be recognised if
filed after the 15th July, 1918.

T. DAIGO,

Hongkong, 30th June, 1918.

TOYO KISEN KAISHA.

s.s. "SHINYO MARU."

From SAN FRANCISCO VIA
HONOLULU, JAPAN PORTS,
AND SHANGHAI.

The above named Steamer hav-
ing arrived, Consignees of cargo
are hereby notified to send in
their Bills of Lading for counter-
signature, and to take immediate
delivery of cargo from alongside.

Cargo remaining undelivered
on 4th July 1918, at 5 P.M.,
will be landed at; Consignees'
risk and expense, and delivery
must then be taken from the
Company's Godown.

Storage charges will be assessed
on all cargo remaining un-
delivered on 8th July 1918, at
5 P.M.

No Fire Insurance whatever
will be effected.

No Claim will be recognised
after the Goods have left the
Steamer or Godown.

All chafed and damaged cargo
will be landed into the Com-
pany's Godown, where they will
be examined on 8th July, 1918,
at 10 A.M.

No Claim will be recognised if
filed after the 15th July, 1918.

T. DAIGO,

Hongkong, 2nd July, 1918.

HONGKONG STORM SIGNAL CODE. (LOCAL).
Introduced on 1st JULY, 1917.

| SIGNAL | SYMBOL | DAY SIGNALS. | MEANING. |
|--------|---------|--------------|---|
| 1. | ▲ (RED) | ▲ | A typhoon exists which may possibly cause a gale at Hongkong within 24 hours. |
| 2. | ▲ | ▲ | Gale expected from the North (N.W. to N.E.) |
| 3. | ▲ | ▲ | South (S.E. to S.W.) |
| 4. | ▲ | ▲ | East (N.E. to S.E.) |
| 5. | ▲ | ▲ | West (N.W. to S.W.) |
| 6. | ▲ | ▲ | Gale expected to increase. |
| 7. | ▲ | ▲ | Wind of typhoon force expected (any direction). |

Signal No. 1 is included as a warning to "Stand by" and watch for the next signal. When it is hoisted after a black signal has been displayed it will mean that, on account of a change in the track of the typhoon, or for some other reason, a gale is no longer expected from the direction indicated by the last signal, and that another black signal may possibly be hoisted later.

The signals will be lowered when it is considered that all danger is over.

The Day Signals will be displayed at the masthead of the steam signal mast on Blackhead Hill, the Harbour Office, H.M.S. "Teeser," Green Island signal mast, the flagstaff on the premises of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company at Kowloon, the flagstaff on the premises of the Standard Oil Company at Lai-chi-ko, and the flagstaff near the Field Officer's Quarters at Lyman.

The Night Signals will be displayed, at sunset, on the tower of the Harbour Station, on H.M.S. "Teeser," and on the Harbour Office flagstaff. They will have the same significance as the day signals.

Signal No. 7 will be accompanied by explosive bombs as shown, in the event of the information conveyed by this signal being first published at night.

SUPPLEMENTARY WARNINGS.

When local signals are displayed in the Harbour a CONE will be exhibited with the following stations:—
GAP ROCK
WAGLAN
STANLEY
ABERDEEN
SAU KI WAI
SAI KUNG
SHA TAU KOK
TAI PO

To notify the fleet to maintain and passing ocean vessels, on demand, by signal from lighthouse.

HONGKONG STORM SIGNAL CODE. (NON-LOCAL).
Introduced on 1st JULY, 1917.

The Signals are made by means of ten symbols representing the ten numerals:—

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 0.

They are displayed at the yard arms of the Storm Signal mast on Blackhead Hill, and repeat until an order to change or hoist is received from the Observer on the premises of the Harbour Office.

The following information is given:—
(a) Direction of centre by 4 symbols at one yard arm.
(b) Direction of motion and velocity of centre, and the time by 3 symbols at the other yard arm (Tables 1, 2, and 3).

The upper symbol of group (a) indicates the direction in which the Typhoon or Depression is travelling. (Table 1.)

The middle symbol of group (a) indicates the velocity at which the centre of the Typhoon is travelling. Alternatively it may indicate certain conditions of a Continental Depression. In such case, see Table 2.

The lower symbol of group (a) indicates the time at which the centre was in the position signalled.

The upper symbol of group (b) indicates the region threatened; the middle symbol the direction from which the gale is expected, and the lower symbol the time at which gale conditions were first indicated.

EXPLANATION OF THE SIGNALS.

Table No. 1.—Direction Signals.

These indicate the direction in which a typhoon or depression is travelling, or the direction from which a monsoon gale is expected.

Table No. 2.—Velocity and Condition Signals.

These indicate the velocity and condition of the typhoon or depression.

Table No. 3.—Time Signals.

These indicate the time at which the centre of the typhoon or depression was in the position signalled.

Table No. 4.—Regions Threatened by Monsoon Gales.

These indicate the regions threatened by monsoon gales.

Table No. 5.—Regions Threatened by Monsoon Gales.

These indicate the regions threatened by monsoon gales.

Table No. 6.—Regions Threatened by Monsoon Gales.

These indicate the regions threatened by monsoon gales.

Table No. 7.—Regions Threatened by Monsoon Gales.

These indicate the regions threatened by monsoon gales.

Table No. 8.—Regions Threatened by Monsoon Gales.

These indicate the regions threatened by monsoon gales.

Table No. 9.—Regions Threatened by Monsoon Gales.

These indicate the regions threatened by monsoon gales.

Table No. 10.—Regions Threatened by Monsoon Gales.

These indicate the regions threatened by monsoon gales.

Table No. 11.—Regions Threatened by Monsoon Gales.

These indicate the regions threatened by monsoon gales.

Table No. 12.—Regions Threatened by Monsoon Gales.

These indicate the regions threatened by monsoon gales.

VESSELS LOADING AND TO LOAD.

| Destination. | Vessel's Name. | For Freight Apply To | To be Despatched. |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| JAPAN AND COAST PORTS. | | | |
| Makassar | Tjiliwong | J.O.J. L. | 4, July |
| Shanghai | Suiyang | B. & S. | 4, July |
| Swatow, Amoy and Foochow | Haikun | D.L. Co. | 4, July |
| Haiphong via Hoihow | Takung | J.M. Co. | 4, July |
| Manila | Yuenang | J.M. Co. | 5, July |
| Swatow and Singapore | Linan | B. & S. | 5, July |
| Shanghai | Tsaiang | J.M. Co. | 6, July |
| Tientsin | Huichow | B. & S. | 7, July |
| Swatow, Amoy and Foochow | Haikun | D.L. Co. | 9, July |
| Shanghai | Sungkiang | B. & S. | 9, July |
| Batavia | Tjimanoeck | J.O.J. L. | 10, July |
| Manila | Loongsang | J.M. Co. | 12, July |
| Shanghai, Kobe and Yokohama | Sado M. | N.Y.K. | 19, July |
| Shanghai, Kobe and Yokohama | Kawachi M. | N.Y.K. | 19, July |
| Nagasaki, Kobe and Yokohama | Aki M. | N.Y.K. | 20, July |
| Nagasaki, Kobe and Yokohama | Tango M. | N.Y.K. | 17, Aug. |

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|--|-------------------|--------------------|---|--------|-------|
| NAME OF DOCK, OR SLIP | LENGTH IN FEET | BREADTH IN FEET | DEPTH, OVER ALL AT ORDINARY TIDE STAGE | STAGES | SLIPS |
| KOWLOON | | | | | |
| No. 1 Dock, Kowloon | 700' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 2 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 3 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 4 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 5 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 6 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 7 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 8 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 9 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 10 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 11 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 12 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 13 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 14 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 15 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 16 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 17 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 18 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 19 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 20 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 21 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 22 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 23 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 24 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 25 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 26 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
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| No. 28 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 29 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 30 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 31 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 32 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 33 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 34 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 35 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 36 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 37 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
| No. 38 Dock, Kowloon | 575' | 200' | 20' | 10' | 1 |
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HONGKONG
CONSCRIPTION.TRIBUNAL MEETS FOR
FIRST TIME.Some of the Cases Considered
To-day.

The Hongkong General Military Service Tribunal held its first sitting this afternoon at 3.30 o'clock in the Council Chamber. There were one or two members of the general public present and a full attendance of members of the Tribunal. The Hon. Mr. E. H. Sharp (Chairman of the Tribunal) presided, and the other members present were:—The Hon. Mr. David Landale, Mr. W. Adamson, Mr. G. S. Archbutt, Commander Beckwith, R.N., Mr. T. F. Hoogh, Mr. A. O. Long, Lieut. Col. Passby, O.R.A., and Mr. G. M. Young, with Mr. A. G. M. Fletcher (Clerk of the Tribunal).

Chartered Bank Cases.

The first cases considered were those of servants of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, and the agenda for the afternoon showed that Messrs. L. H. Lovely, N. J. Austin, J. R. Irvine and W. J. Morrison had all been declared medically fit. The following men of military age have been rejected as unfit for service:—Messrs. C. F. Maltby, J. Gibb, and H. Matheson.

Mr. T. C. Downing, the local manager of the Bank, appeared and stated that none of the fit men could be spared. Replying to questions by Mr. Sharp, he stated that there had been no reduction of the staff since the outbreak of the war, nine being employed now as then. There were six sub-accountants. He did not think that by a re-arrangement of the staff men could be spared, and even if they were they would be wanted elsewhere. There was no allowance for illness or sickness. With regard to the question of substitution, any appointment would have to rest with London, and if a substitute were not competent he would have to be trained by another man.

The Chairman said he understood that three junior officers had recently arrived from London, via America, but Mr. Downing said these men were destined for Calcutta and Singapore. The Portuguese and Chinese staff had been increased a little since the outbreak of war, but a further increase would not effect the number of Englishmen to be spared.

Asked if the men concerned had anything to say, Mr. Lovely stated that the pre-war staff were the same not only in Hongkong, but in Shanghai, Yokohama, Hankow and Tientsin. As a matter of fact, the figures were Hongkong 9 as compared with 9, Shanghai 9 as compared with 9, Tientsin 4 with 4, Hankow 2 with 2, Yokohama 6 with 6, and Peking 1 with 2 now. The staff had been increased in two instances, Mr. Lovely added that if the Tribunal would not consider his case as a member of the Chartered Bank, would they consider it as resigned from the Chartered Bank?

Mr. Downing then read a copy of a telegram he had received from London, which stated that the staff of the Bank had been reduced by 45 men since the outbreak of the war; five men had died; 13 had resigned; two had been invalided and two others had joined the Army. Six new men had been appointed since 1914, five being discharged soldiers, as against an average of about sixty for the similar preceding period.

Asked to explain the increases in Hankow and Peking, Mr. Downing said that it was only accidental that the staff at Hankow at the outbreak of the war should have been low, and it was now only normal; the increase at Peking had resulted from the opening of an office, instead of only having a representative there.

Mr. Lovely:—The extra clerk in the North was only needed for the tea season, but he is being kept on.

Mr. Downing:—We are short-staffed in India and Kobe.

HOW DO YOU SLEEP?

Position Shows Your Character.

If you are anxious to know your real character—no t that which you assume as yet a strut before men, or even before yourself in your conceited moments—figure out your natural position as you sleep. The index is furnished by Mr. John Patterson, who looks after the health and care of the wonderful animal family of Barnum and Bailey's circus, which is now housed in Philadelphia.

"Bears, which have no fear, sleep in any position," he told the Public Ledger. "The same is true of wolves. Animals of a cunning or cowardly nature, however, are always on the alert even when asleep."

"The lion, when the excitement of the day is over stretches itself out on its side, with its paws turned in, and twitches like a big dog. Gorillas and chimpanzees sleep with their hands over their heads."

"A seal sleeps like a human being. It stretches out at full length and enters dreamland on its back, stomach or side. Once in a while the seal will sit up, with its head bent down on its chest, fast asleep in the water, with its ears under, so, as is his custom in his native state, that he may hear the approach of an enemy, sound travelling with great distinctness under water."

"Elephants sleep upright, like a horse, and fitfully. They are keenly alert to the slightest noise and quick to sense things. If they can see the object they do not rattle easily, but if it is something weird sounding and out of sight they need the reassuring voice of their keeper. With this elephant the voice is everything. They have the same feeling for a friendly, sincere voice that a natural musician has for the sound of a musical voice."

Fourteen New Dry Docks.

Washington, June 26.—The Senate has passed the sundry civil bill providing appropriations of \$2,500,000,000. It includes a vote of \$25,000,000 for fourteen new dry docks. The measure now goes to a conference committee of both Houses. The House has passed the five and a half billion dollar appropriation bill providing for an army of 3,000,000 men.

Mr. Lovely:—Kobe is a place where the senior officers are putting their shoulders to the wheel. During the course of further questions, Mr. Downing stated that only the Canton and Foochow offices were controlled from Hongkong, and that owing to the closing of the Foochow tea market it might be that the Foochow office would soon be closed.

Major Morgan, Proper Military Authority, stated that he thought that two men could be spared from the Bank.

The Tribunal then considered the cases, on their merits, in camera.

After consideration, the Chairman announced that Mr. Lovely should be called up for service, but if as regards Mr. Irvine's inconvenience would be caused, temporary exemption would be granted in his case.

Mr. Downing asked if he would be allowed to appeal, and he was informed that he would.

Other Cases.

The following cases of medically fit men were also to be considered this afternoon, but had not been concluded when we went to press:—

Lane, Crawford and Co.—E. L. Bridger.

Mercantile Bank.—O. Champkin and E. Kennedy.

Y.M.C.A.—G. F. Turner.

Kelly and Walsh.—J. H. Mead and V. C. Labrum.

Unfit.

It was also stated that the following men had been rejected as unfit for service, and their cases did not therefore come before the Tribunal:—

Lane, Crawford and Co.—A. N. Bootes, A. E. Crapnell, F. M. Crawford, E. J. Ainalie, G. W. Avenell.

Mercantile Bank.—E. L. Sim.

COMPANY MEETING.

Hongkong Steel Foundry
Co., Ltd.

(VERBATIM).

The eighth ordinary general meeting of the Hongkong Steel Foundry Co., Ltd., was held this morning at the offices of the Company, St. George's Building. Mr. A. G. Gordon presided and there were also present Mr. J. F. Fisher (acting secretary), Messrs. E. J. Chapman, C. D. Wilkinson, W. Logan, M. S. Northcote, R. Rodger, A. Keating, M. W. Mark, Yen Cheong, P. Teater, P. O. Potter, E. E. Ellis, E. M. Raymond, and Henderson (shareholders).

The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting.

The Chairman said:—The report and accounts having been in your hands for some time, I will follow the usual course and with your permission take them as read. The balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account, allowing for depreciation on Company's plant, machinery, launch, and stock-in-trade, and including the amount carried forward from last year, is \$55,981.18. Your General Managers propose to deal with this amount as follows:—

| | |
|---|-------------|
| To pay a dividend of \$1.00 per share ... | 7,808.00 |
| To pay a bonus of \$1.00 per share ... | 7,808.00 |
| To Write off Patent Process Rights ... | 21,369.58 |
| To Pay a Bonus to Staff ... | 1,860.00 |
| To Place to Reserve Fund ... | 10,000.00 |
| To carry forward to credit of next year's account ... | 7,135.60 |
| | \$55,981.18 |

This appropriation we hope meets with your approval.

When last I addressed you, I mentioned that further additions to our furnaces and other improvements were being undertaken. Considerable progress has been made with this development during the year. Two new sets of radio furnaces have been installed, making in all ten double sets in operation at present, and we intend laying down one or two sets of forced draught patent furnaces at an early date, full working drawings for which are now on the way from England. The works have been extremely busy during the year, and, amongst the orders on hand, the Company have been engaged on heavy castings for the standardised Government ships. We were rather doubtful as to whether we could accomplish the severe tests of material required by the Admiralty, and you will be pleased to know we have succeeded. We are indebted to the courtesy and assistance given by the management of the Taikeo and Kowloon Docks, which enabled us to accomplish these satisfactory results.

Logot Steel.—We experimented on this class of work during the year with very satisfactory results, and if the Foundry is at any time in lack of orders, the making of soft ingot steel will be a profitable source of revenue, so that future prospects are very encouraging.

Patent Process.—The \$21,369.58 mentioned in the auditors' report last year has now been written off. The Company has every reason to be congratulated on securing the rights of this asset, for had it not done so the Foundry would have had to close down for want of supplies from home. Amongst other things it enables us to make our own flux for the fusion of scrap with other metals, independently of outside resources.

Land and Buildings.—These have been purchased by the Company on very favourable terms, and so we shall be enabled to extend our plant from time to time as the development of the casting department justifies, and until such time as the larger scheme is further advanced, when the whole will be combined as one concern. We have paid out of profits \$5,000 on taking over this property, and the small mortgage of \$5,000 standing as a liability in last year's accounts, has also been paid off during the current year. We propose to pay a bonus to the staff of 20%—\$1,860, of which I am sure you will approve. It is the efforts of our staff we owe the satisfactory results of the

year's working and especially to our works superintendent, who has given so much of his extra time in the Company's interest; and, in recommending this bonus, we feel sure we have the support of every shareholder.

The Outlook.—Our position is somewhat similar to that of last year, with the additional advantage that negotiations are in progress for the development of this concern. There are, unquestionably, large deposits of iron ore, coal, limestone, and wolfram available in the neighbouring Province, and I have no doubt whatsoever that a concession can be arranged to give Hongkong a steady supply of these articles. I can give no data as regards the quantity of coal or iron or in sight; but I know from written offers which have been made, that Chinese mine-owners are prepared to contract for the supply to this Company of all coal and iron ore required. I have not personally possessed the necessary time to enable me to inspect, with an expert, the various coal and iron fields from which it has been proposed to supply the articles, but I have strong reason to believe that these are situated at no great distance from Hongkong, and close to waterways.

Wolfram.—From official reports a new development of interests has resulted by the growing demand of this ore, and the recent discovery that the mineral is to be found in marketable quantities in Kwangtung Province. It is said that the natives mistook it for manganese ore, or iron ore, until a suspicion was raised by the high prices offered, that it must contain something different from common metals. The Japanese first learned of the value of the "iron ore" in Hainan Province, and offered about 27 cents Mexican, or 17 cents gold, a pound for it; other buyers learned of the bargain and offered better prices. At the end of 1917 the average ore commanded about 50 Mexican or \$32 gold per hundred pounds. There seems to be considerable difference of opinion as to what effect this new supply from South China will have upon the markets. One buyer expresses the opinion that, with a proper development of the South China fields, the available supply of tungsten in the world can be increased by at least 20%, while shipments have so far been considerable. The actual development of the fields as indicated has not yet commenced.

Capital.—Our appeal locally for increased capital to meet the demand for extension of plant, did not meet with efficient encouragement, and the amount necessary to enable us to go to all allotment was not subscribed. Your General Managers, though naturally disappointed, were by no means depressed by the fact. The appeal we made has evidently reached the outside world, for numerous offers of capital, and other proposals, have been made which will doubtless lead to beneficial results, not only for the Company, but also for the colony. The one and only drawback to this encouraging outlook is the internal strife existing amongst Chinese officialdom, which retards any progress, and calls for patience, but we can rest well satisfied that when the time comes we are prepared to commence operations, and have no doubt that pressure (if not before, certainly after the war) will be brought to bear by one or the other of the countries interesting themselves in this matter.

In conclusion, perhaps I might mention that your General Managers have been asked of the feasibility of standardised concrete ships being built in this colony, and how far our Company could assist in such an undertaking. In consequence, we have consulted with gentlemen of practical experience, whose opinions on such matters are the highest in the colony, and who have gone thoroughly into details of the subject. With the available material at present on hand it is considered by them to be feasible, in fact it is contemplated to build one such vessel of about 1,000 to 1,500 tons. This being done, will prove that Hongkong is keeping well in line with the latest production in shipbuilding, still, for want of regular guaranteed supplies of raw material, no further advance can, it is considered be made, in this direction.

Capital.—Our appeal locally for increased capital to meet the demand for extension of plant, did not meet with efficient encouragement, and the amount necessary to enable us to go to all allotment was not subscribed. Your General Managers, though naturally disappointed, were by no means depressed by the fact. The appeal we made has evidently reached the outside world, for numerous offers of capital, and other proposals, have been made which will doubtless lead to beneficial results, not only for the Company, but also for the colony. The one and only drawback to this encouraging outlook is the internal strife existing amongst Chinese officialdom, which retards any progress, and calls for patience, but we can rest well satisfied that when the time comes we are prepared to commence operations, and have no doubt that pressure (if not before, certainly after the war) will be brought to bear by one or the other of the countries interesting themselves in this matter.

Mr. Keating.—Mr. Chairman, I beg to propose that Mr. Bernard Brown be re-elected auditor of the Company for the ensuing year.

Mr. Henderson.—I have much pleasure in seconding that.

The Chairman:—It has been proposed by Mr. Keating and seconded by Mr. Henderson that Mr. Bernard Brown be re-elected auditor for the ensuing year. All those in favour, please? Carried unanimously. I do not think that there is anything more for me to say, but to thank you for your attendance and to announce that dividend warrants are ready and any gentlemen, caring to get them can do so. That is the end of the present meeting, but will you please stay, as there is a private meeting afterwards.

A Troublesome Seaman.—Before Mr. E. D. O. Wolfe, this morning, John Cortwright, a seaman, was charged with refusing to pay the legal rickshaw fare and with assaulting the coolie and a constable who attempted his arrest. The rickshaw coolie said accused engaged his rickshaw in Ship Street ordering to be brought to the King Edward Hotel. After a few minutes' stay at the Hotel, accused ordered witness to take him back to the Naval Yard. Arriving there accused refused to pay the fare demanded. An Indian constable on duty came to defendant's assistance and was assaulted. He blew his police whistle and a European sergeant arrived and helped to arrest defendant. The Indian constable said he advised defendant to pay his fare but the latter was persistent. Defendant said as far as he could recollect the constable handled him roughly. His Worship fined defendant \$7 and also ordered him to pay compensation amounting to \$1.40 to the constable and coolie.

for the present. Such would not have been the case had our appeal of last year been responded to. The estimates we then laid before the meeting were for a plant to supply an output of 3,000 tons per month of manufactured material. After that we had a second one, which was to purchase an existing plant and transfer to Hongkong, with a guarantee to be in working order in 12 months after arrival. Now, gentlemen, had the Hongkong public responded and taken an interest in this necessary undertaking, to-day, this colony would have had its own mills, almost in full swing, producing nearly all the necessary material, for building, not only concrete, but steel vessels as well. I have nothing further to add that would be interesting to shareholders, and now beg to propose the adoption of the report, and accounts as presented.

Mr. Northcote.—I have much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report and accounts. It cannot but be satisfactory to shareholders—a class of person always on the look-out for dividends—to see the healthy growth of our eight years' old Company, and I am sure you will agree that great praise is due to our General Manager therefor, and that under his care the volume of business has, year by year, steadily improved. This is evidenced by the fact that in addition to being able for the second year running, to give us a dividend of 10 per cent, we are to receive on this occasion a bonus of a like amount. And further we note that a handsome sum has been written off the Patent Rights Processes and the commencement of a Reserve Fund. I am sure you will all heartily agree with the appropriation for bonus for staff. The labourer is, at all times, worthy of his hire, and a little recognition thereof stimulates increased effort. The prospects of the future, as our General Manager has told us, seem good and the increased market quotation for the stock would seem to indicate that the public generally is turning its attention to our undertaking. With these remarks I beg to second the adoption of the report and accounts.

The Chairman:—It has been proposed by myself and seconded by Mr. Northcote that the report and accounts as presented be adopted. Will you please signify approval in the usual manner? Those against? Carried unanimously.

Mr. Keating.—Mr. Chairman, I beg to propose that Mr. Bernard Brown be re-elected auditor of the Company for the ensuing year.

Mr. Henderson.—I have much pleasure in seconding that.

The Chairman:—It has been proposed by Mr. Keating and seconded by Mr. Henderson that Mr. Bernard Brown be re-elected auditor for the ensuing year. All those in favour, please? Carried unanimously. I do not think that there is anything more for me to say, but to thank you for your attendance and to announce that dividend warrants are ready and any gentlemen, caring to get them can do so. That is the end of the present meeting, but will you please stay, as there is a private meeting afterwards.

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Capital.—Our appeal locally for increased capital to meet the demand for extension of plant, did not meet with efficient encouragement, and the amount necessary to enable us to go to all allotment was not subscribed. Your General Managers, though naturally disappointed, were by no means depressed by the fact. The appeal we made has evidently reached the outside world, for numerous offers of capital, and other proposals, have been made which will doubtless lead to beneficial results, not only for the Company, but also for the colony. The one and only drawback to this encouraging outlook is the internal strife existing amongst Chinese officialdom, which retards any progress, and calls for patience, but we can rest well satisfied that when the time comes we are prepared to commence operations, and have no doubt that pressure (if not before, certainly after the war) will be brought to bear by one or the other of the countries interesting themselves in this matter.

In conclusion, perhaps I might mention that your General Managers have been asked of the feasibility of standardised concrete ships being built in this colony, and how far our Company could assist in such an undertaking. In consequence, we have consulted with gentlemen of practical experience, whose opinions on such matters are the highest in the colony, and who have gone thoroughly into details of the subject. With the available material at present on hand it is considered by them to be feasible, in fact it is contemplated to build one such vessel of about 1,000 to 1,500 tons. This being done, will prove that Hongkong is keeping well in line with the latest production in shipbuilding, still, for want of regular guaranteed supplies of raw material, no further advance can, it is considered be made, in this direction.

MR. BALFOUR ON
BELGIAN RE-BIRTH.Four Years of Slow, Callous,
Calculated Torture.

Mr. Balfour presided recently at a dinner given by the Government Hospitality Committee at the Carlton Hotel to members of the Belgian Committee on Anglo-Belgian Commerce.

He said the work of this Commission had characteristics which in the history of the world had never been met with before, and which he thought would never be met with again. They had to deal with something much more profound and far-reaching than mere commercial and manufacturing interests. They had to deal with the righting of a great international wrong.

There was not a man, woman, or child in Great Britain or her Dominions, or in America, who did not know about the wrongs suffered by Belgium in the early days of the war. What was not known so well was the treatment to which Belgium had been deliberately and elaborately subjected since then. The outrages committed by the German army in the invasion of Belgium were unforgettable and horrible; but he was not sure that the slow system of torture to which Belgium had been subjected during the German occupation had not been even more horrible though perhaps less dramatic in its power, than these first outrages that made the blood of the civilised world run cold.

The Germans had sought to ruin the trade and manufactures and the capacity for trade and manufacture, of a friendly neighbour whom they were bound by treaty to protect. They deliberately rejoiced to think that if peace were declared to-morrow it would be many months before Belgian intelligence, capital, industry and enterprise could again interfere with their German rivals.

With the same cold-blooded deliberation they had stripped Belgium of everything in the way of plant, raw material, and the machinery of production on which an industrial community depends.

Nothing could exceed the cynicism with which these alterations had been carried out. He was told that a German order to subordinate officials had been found in which it was recommended that they were to rob and acquire all the raw materials of the country, if possible by confiscation, because that was the cheapest method of getting it. If by any unlucky chance that happened to be impossible, then the more costly method of paying for what you take might have to be submitted to. I do not believe that cynicism has ever gone farther.

"We have heard, chiefly from the Germans, that might is right, and that morality is insignificant compared with the will to command and dominate. As long as these are fine phrases in philosophical or semi-philosophical works, we smile and tolerate them, but when it takes the form I have described I do not think disgust can go farther."

Belgium is suffering these things at the moment. All the nations of the Alliance are bound, in my opinion, to do their best to remedy this gross wrong which the Germans have deliberately inflicted on a nation they were pledged to defend. I am sure there is good will among the Allies, and that America and Great Britain, for example—France may have her own special problems to deal with of a similar kind—will do their very best to accomplish this great end.

"In the Belgian people themselves we have the best Allies that can be conceived. It is the spirit of the Belgian people even more than any assistance that we are capable of giving them that will ensure the rebirth of Belgian prosperity. Nothing can be more magnificent than the firm endurance which that people, whether they be Flemish or Walloon—for after all, it is a German invention to say that these two sections of the Belgian people are antagonistic—have displayed whatever the language they speak or the race from which they may have sprung. This endurance is the real guarantee of the success of your efforts."

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THE "GINKS."

Variety Company's Visit to
Hongkong.

The "Ginks," a clever little variety company of entertainers, has arrived in Hongkong after a lengthy tour in Africa, India, Java and the Straits Settlements, and is to open at the Victoria Theatre on Sunday night. A most admirable programme is promised, for among the items are songs, dancing, shooting and lassoing acts, spoon manipulations, etc. In all there are five members in the party, and they have been splendidly received wherever they have appeared. Amongst them is Miss Violet Harley, formerly of the Bandman Opera Company, who dances and sings catchy songs, while Mr. Billy Weston, a baritone and versatile comedian, who is in charge of the party, makes a feature of chorus songs. The Company should have a successful season here.

CANTON NEWS.

Our Canton correspondent writes as follows:—

A Commander's Intention. Sam Hung-ying, the commander in the West, has decided to cross the channel from Chu Ma and attack Lum Ko district of Hainan. More than 10 battalions have been ordered to Chingtung harbour in preparation for departure.

Sham's Return. Three members of Sham Chun-huen's staff have arrived and reported that Sham will be in Canton shortly.

Dr. Sun. One of the M. P.'s in Shanghai has informed the Parliament that Sun Yat-sen has declared that he will not return to Canton at present owing to eye disease, and that he will not accept the post of Councillor until he is better.

An Editor's Execution. The Provincial Assembly will discuss the request made by the Press Society for justice to be done regarding the execution of the editor, Chan King-foo.

"Just imagine—I speak to the British people present—your country having been completely controlled by an unscrupulous, brutal and ruthless enemy for three or four years, and an enemy that committed every sort of cruelty and outrage, deliberately destroying every instrument of production which you had for carrying on the work of your country. Conceive the strain on your courage and patriotism, on that of those made helpless victims of such domination. That courage has been shown in the highest conceivable degree by the Belgian people—(cheers)—and their heroism will stand out in all history as the most remarkable and the most inspiring episode in a period teeming with great episodes, filled with events that dwarf all preceding history."

Everyone feels a profound admiration for all the Belgians have done for their country and through their country for civilisation. I find it difficult to speak of Belgium in this connection without emotion, and it is impossible to exaggerate the dignity of the nation. (Cheers).

The Belgian Minister, in reply, said that Belgium would never forget that on the very day her territory was violated, in defence of international law the British Government in the name of the sacred faith of treaties, drew the sword against the aggressor, who, by her traitorous attack, had become a menace to the peace of the world.

Since that day the soldiers of the two nations had fought side by side, and by the blood shed together they would be linked henceforth by an indestructible bond of friendship. Belgium knew that the dawn would follow these dark hours, and that in the fullness of her independence, both political and economically, she would tread the paths of progress, strengthened by the help of the generous people who would stand by her again to take her rightful place in the concourse of nations. Sir A. Steel-Maitland, Chief of the Overseas Trade Department, was among those present.

